

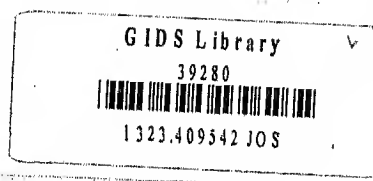
**BASELINE SURVEY IN THE MINORITY
CONCENTRATED DISTRICTS OF U.P.
(REPORT OF KHERI DISTRICT)**

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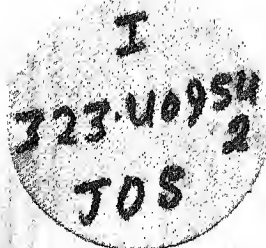
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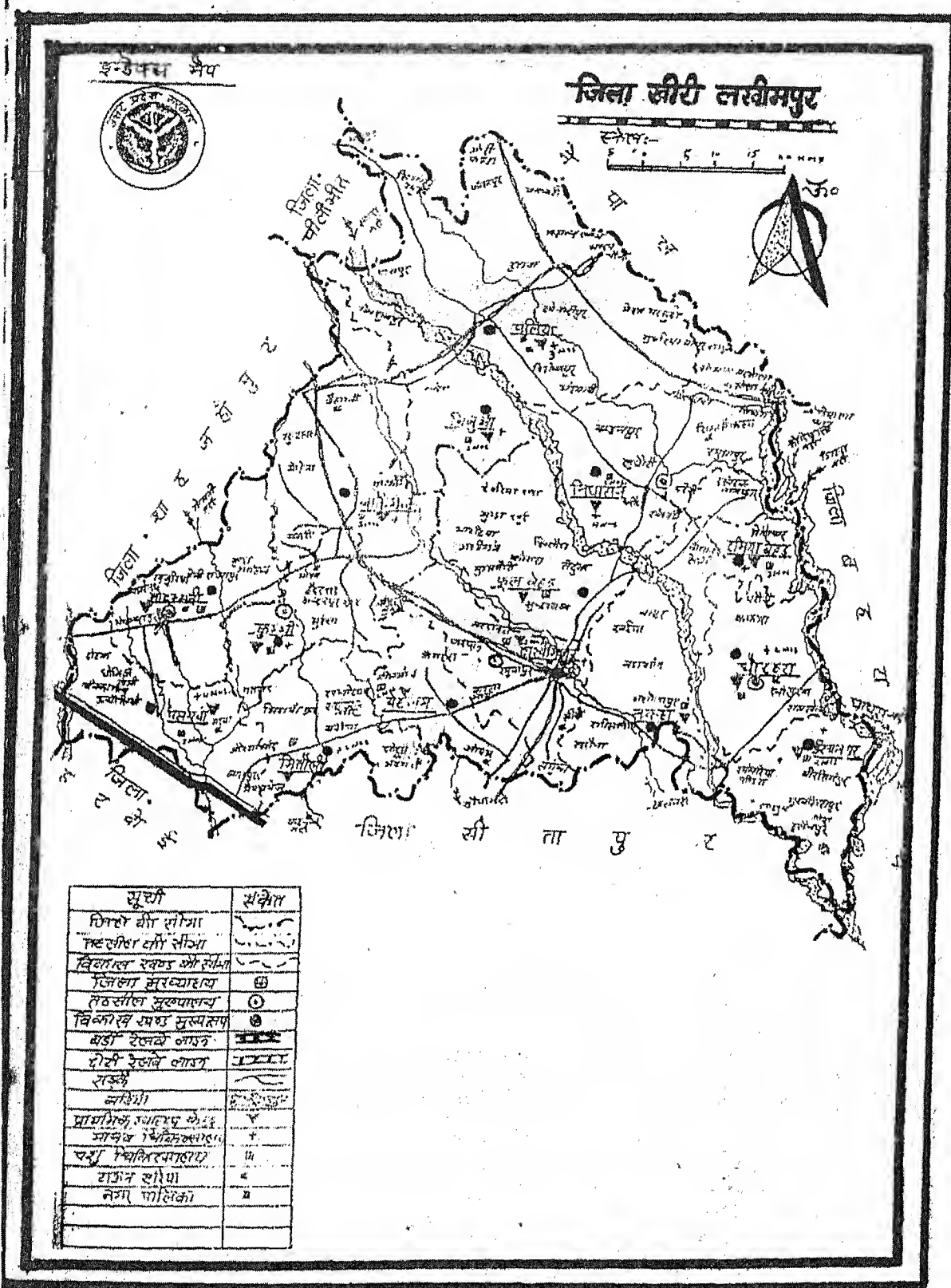
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BASELINE SURVEY IN THE MINORITY CONCENTRATED DISTRICTS OF UTTAR PRADESH

Executive Summary of Kheri District

1.1 Introduction

Since the Minorities comprise almost one-fifth of the total population in India, they have to be adequately taken care of. A survey conducted by the Centre highlighted the fact that as many as 90 districts, having minority concentration, are backward and of these as many as 21 are from U.P. alone. The Ministry of Minority Affairs, New Delhi, therefore, aims at developing suitable measures during the Eleventh Plan to develop these districts. In order to identify the gaps in the development, a baseline survey was conducted in 19 districts of U.P. by the Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow and the Executive Summary of Kheri District is being presented below.

1.2 Objectives of the Study

To identify gaps:

- in infrastructure such as schools, health and drinking water;
- in housing and sanitary facilities;
- which exist in other infrastructure, e.g., roads, banking and marketing facilities, etc.; and,
- point out income generating activities, e.g., artisan/handicrafts in which villagers have a comparative advantage.

1.3 Methodology, Sample Design and Tools

The Tehsils of each district were first classified into 3 strata by arranging them in descending order of Minority population in the 2001 Census. Then 30 villages were selected from each district. A door-to-door survey conducted to do the house listing in each village with a population upto 1200. In larger sized villages two hamlets were selected. The first was the one with highest minority population and the second any other hamlet of the village. Then from each village 30 households were selected in proportion to the religious categories of people living in the village. Thus, a total of 900 households were identified and surveyed from each district.

The study was undertaken at 3 levels:

- District Profile using secondary information
- Village level using secondary information
- Household level using data generated from the field survey.

1.4 Brief Profile of Kheri District

Kheri is the largest district of the U.P. in terms of geographical area and comprises of 6 Tehsils and 15 Blocks. According to the Census of 2001 the district had the following features.

Table 1: Some Selected Indicators

Sl. No.	Indicators	Figure
1.	Total Population	32.07 lakh
2.	Sex Ratio	871
3.	Percentage of SC Population	26.8
4.	Percentage of Minority Population	22.59
5.	Percentage of Urban Population	10.8
6.	Percentage of Households having permanent houses	39.40
7.	Percentage of Households having Electricity	18.10
8.	Percentage of Households having tap/handpump or Tubewell water	94.02
9.	Percentage of Households having latrines	23.66

Agriculture is the main occupation with 62.08 per cent reported areas under cultivation. The main crops are wheat, rice and sugarcane and average yield of each crop is higher than the State average. However, the district is adversely affected with floods and water logging and this damages the crops.

With respect to industries it has a poor industrial base. Out of the 157 registered factories approximately 2/3rd are not working. Kheri has 9 large sugar mills and yet there is scope to set up a few more units. The district also has around 5000 small scale and around 1750 units registered under Khadi Gram Udyog Industries. However, the exact number of functioning units is not known.

Looking at infrastructure it is observed that the district is poorly connected by rail and roads considering the size of the district. Roads are badly damaged as a result of floods and water logging.

The district is lagging behind in terms of higher education and even with respect to health services PHCs and CHCs are below the prescribed norm.

Although banks and other financial institutions are present the common man is not having easy access to cheap and timely institutional credit.

In a large number of locations water has a high arsenic content and causes stomach ailments among the people.

On the whole therefore, the district figures among the less developed districts of U.P. despite the fact that it has the potential to do much better.

1.5 Main Findings of the Field Survey

The main findings of the survey highlight the fact that among the Minority communities the conditions of Muslims is a cause of concern whether we look at their literacy rates; size of land holdings; monthly income and expenditure; or their living conditions. These details have been highlighted in Table 2. Even the economic condition of Hindu households is also only slightly better. It is only the Sikh community which is enjoying a better quality of life. Therefore, it is quite evident that some concerted efforts have to be made in the district to ensure that an all-round development takes place with the help of which the overall quality of life and living conditions of the masses in general can be improved (Table 2).

Table 2: Results of the Household Survey

Sl. No.	Indicators	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
1.	Total household surveyed (Nos.)	590	267	43	900
2.	% Distribution by Caste	65.56	29.67	4.78	100.00
3.	Average size of the Household	7.06	6.91	5.55	6.95
4.	% of Illiterates	31.20	38.93	22.18	33.14
5.	Average size of Land Holdings (Acres)	2.05	1.12	6.92	2.02
6.	Avg. size of all assets per household (Rs)	31,407	19,767	75,333	30,052
7.	Avg. Monthly income of household (Rs.)	30,970	24,730	49,119	30,332
8.	Avg. Monthly expenditure of households (Rs.)	26,914	23,978	46,913	27,408
9.	Avg. Indebtedness per household (Rs)	11,980	7,549	83,916	14,103
10.	Work Participation Rate (%)	28.63	28.00	33.05	28.61
11.	% of Households living in Pucca Houses	36.27	19.10	62.79	32.44
12.	% of Electrified Households	10.34	9.74	58.14	12.44
13.	% of Households having own Handpump/Tubewell or Tap	69.49	77.15	95.35	73.00
14.	% of Households having Toilet facility	9.66	16.10	27.91	12.44

It is equally important to compare some of these indicators with those obtained at the All India and the State average as this comparison will indicate the deviation from the national or state average as far as the survey results are concerned. Those indicators whose value is lower than the national average will be the ones which need to be given a priority because we will be making comparison between those indicators which had been selected by the National Commission in the identification of our 90 backward districts all over the country.

This comparison is being presented with the help of Table 3.

Table 3: A Comparative Picture of Kheri with some key All India and State Level Indicators

Sl. No.	Indicators	Survey Results	Estimate for India (2005)	Deviation From	Priority Ranking
				Nat. Avg.	From India
1.	Socio-Economic Indicators				
	Literacy Rate (Total)	78.38	67.3	+11.8	9
	Literacy Rate (Female)	68.83	57.1	+11.73	10
	Work Participation Rate (Total)	28.61	38.0	-9.39	7
	Work Participation Rate (Female)	5.33	21.5	-16.17	6
2.	Basic Amenities				
	% of Pucca Houses	32.44	59.4	-26.96	2
	% of HHs with safe drinking water	96.00*	87.9	+8.1	8
	% of HHs with sanitation facilities	13.11	66.9	-54.79	1
	% of Electrified Households	12.44	39.2	-26.76	3
3.	Indicators of Health				
	% of fully vaccinated children	21.85	43.5	-21.66	5
	% of institutional deliveries	16.67	38.7	-22.03	4

N.B.: * In various localities the water contains high arsenic content and there is no exact percentage of households with access to safe drinking water.

Keeping in mind some of the priority areas indicated in Table 3 and some major findings of the survey highlighted in Table 2 the following aspects need special attention whenever a plan for the development of the district is attempted.

To sum up, therefore, the areas which need to be given special attention by the planners and policy makers are:

- In the areas where water has high arsenic content the government agencies can opt for deep boring of tubewells and handpumps as the lower strata will be safe drinking water.
- The number of households having latrines is extremely low. Keeping in mind hygiene and sanitation as well as convenience, availability of latrines is essential. This can be achieved if the subsidy amount given under Total Sanitation Campaign is suitably increased. The existing amount is very small.
- The Indira Awas Yojana needs to be extended to minority families falling in the BPL category.
- The sub-centres and PHCs need to be upgraded and revamped so that they can provide services effectively. This will reduce the dependence of the rural people on unqualified doctors as is the case presently.
- The Minorities Welfare Department can initiate a Medical Insurance Scheme for workers in the Minority group in collaboration with some Insurance Company

similar to the scheme being implemented for weavers by the Central Government jointly with ICICI Lombard.

- All villages should be properly linked through all weather roads for improving road connectivity.
- Funds provided by NABARD under RIDF should be properly utilized for embankment of Sharda and Ghaghra rivers. This will provide relief from floods.
- The district is in need of schools and colleges beyond the elementary level especially for girls.
- Since land holdings are small, the cultivators can be educated to diversify their activities where possible. Thus, depending on area, suitability and people's preference activities such as dairying, mushroom cultivation, pisciculture, sericulture, poultry farming and cultivation of fruits and vegetables can be promoted in various blocks of the district.
- Similarly other non-farm activities can be identified by the Directorate of Industries and on their basis a cluster development approach can be taken up as it may not be feasible to promote these activities in each village. Some of the activities which are already being undertaken include Durry making, Chikan Embroidery, 'Dona and Pattal' making, basket and pottery making, etc.
- Our survey had revealed that a high proportion of the respondents are desirous of receiving vocational training. Thus, the government should ensure that such training programmes be conducted on a regular basis. In fact training should be compulsory before an individual is sanctioned Term Loan to begin an enterprise.
- Since the Commercial Banks and other financial institutions are not very cooperative in providing credit to the poorer section, some provision should be made to ensure the cooperation of these institutions. However, various activities can be promoted under the Term Loan Scheme for Minorities. The amount of loan being provided presently also needs to be raised suitably. Yet another source of financing these ventures can be the PMRY scheme.
- Finally if the Minority Welfare Department is to perform its duties effectively it must be provided with proper office space, adequate staff and infrastructure such as computer with internet services and most importantly a vehicle so that the officials can tour the district and sort out problems of minorities. At times even the funds are not received on time.

CHAPTER I

OUTLINE OF THE STUDY AND PROFILE OF KHERI DISTRICT

1. About the Study

According to the Census of India 2001, minorities constitute 19.5 per cent of the total population of the country. Out of the total as many as 1381.9 lakhs or 13.4 per cent alone were Muslims. The only other religious groups of some significance are Christians (2.3 per cent) and Sikh (1.9 per cent). The others all have a share of below one per cent in the total population. The dominance of Mohammadans becomes more prominent if we work out their share in the total minority population which comes to almost 79 per cent. In the case of Uttar Pradesh the overall share of the minority community is almost the same as obtained at the National level. But the share of Muslims is much higher in the total population (18.5 per cent). All other religious communities have a negligible share in the total population of the State. In fact Muslims in the State account for around 95 per cent of all the minorities taken together.

With the Minorities forming almost one-fifth of the total population it is but obvious that they need to be adequately taken care of. The Ministry of Minority Affairs, New Delhi has the responsibility to chalk out policies and programmes so that those who are disadvantaged among this group are provided an opportunity for their upliftment. One of the latest efforts in this direction has been in the form of constituting an expert Committee by the Ministry to identify those districts which have a minority concentration and are also relatively backward. The indicators selected for identification of these districts were as follows:

(a) Religion-Specific Socio-Economic Indicators

- (i) Literacy Rate
- (ii) Female Literacy Rate
- (iii) Work Participation Rate, and
- (iv) Female Work Participation Rate

(b) Indicators of Basic Amenities

- (i) Percentage of Households with pucca walls
- (ii) Percentage of Households with safe drinking water

- (iii) Percentage of Households with electricity, and
- (iv) Percentage of Households with W/C latrines.

As many as 53 districts were found to have values below the National level average for both sets of indicators while another 37 had values below the National average for one or the other set of indicators. Thus a total of 90 districts from all over the country were identified as being backward and having minority concentration. Of these as many as 21 (almost one-fourth) are in U.P. The Ministry aims at devising suitable policy measures during the Eleventh Plan in order to develop these districts. The Ministry then identified several institutions in different parts of the country to carry out a baseline survey of these districts. The task of undertaking this study in the 21 districts of Uttar Pradesh was entrusted to the Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow.

2. Objectives of the Study

The main objectives of the study are as follows:

- (i) To conduct a gap analysis of availability of infrastructure such as schools, health and ICDS centres and drinking water supply;
- (ii) To find out the gaps in housing and sanitary facilities;
- (iii) Identification of income generating activities such as artisan/handicrafts in which villagers have a comparative advantage;
- (iv) To identify the existing gaps in other infrastructural facilities such as roads, ITIs, banking and marketing facilities which will provide the missing links and act as a catalyst in the process of development of the district.

3. Methodology and Sample Design

It was decided that 30 villages would be selected from each district. For village selection the Tehsils of the district were first grouped into three strata in terms of minority population after arranging them in descending order of minority population. The first stratum consisted of 20 per cent of the Tehsils and the second and third stratum constituted 50 and 30 per cent Tehsils respectively. Tehsil was used for stratification because religion-wise data is available in the 2001 census only upto the Tehsil level. The number of villages selected from each stratum were directly proportional to the share of each stratum and were selected as per the probability proportion to size with replacement method.

Once the villages were identified, house listing was conducted by door to door visit in villages where total population was upto 1200. But in case of villages with higher

population the different hamlets were considered and two hamlets were selected. The first hamlet was the one where concentration of minority population was highest and the other hamlet was selected randomly.

From each village 30 households were selected by listing the households according to their religion. Sample selected was in proportion to the population in each religious category according to the systematic random sampling without replacement method.

In this way our total sample worked out to be as follows:

Total number of villages	30
Total number of households	900

4. Tools

The study is taken up at three levels. One is the district profile. For this secondary information was collected from Census records, Office of the District Statistics Officer, Office of the CDO, Office of the Minority Welfare Officer, NABARD, etc. The second and third level is the village and the household level. Even the village information has been obtained from secondary sources like the Tehsil and Block Development Office. For the household level, of course, we have used primary information obtained by conducting a field survey of all the 30 villages selected for the study.

Three Schedules were developed for collecting District, Village and Household level information.

The survey was initiated on 3 December 2007 and completed by 15 January 2008. The names of villages surveyed by us in Kheri district is as follows:

Name of Tehsil	Name of the Village	
Lakhimpur	1. Ambuapur 2. Ginhauna 3. Saikhanpur	4. Kala Aam 5. Bhaduri 6. Gaura
Gola	1. Barethi 2. Kotwara 3. Ameernagar	4. Babipur 5. Itkuti 6. Jahanpur
Mohammadi	1. Potheli Amrita 2. Rachela Wajidpur 3. Rampur	4. Kalua Moti 5. Bandu Khera 6. Deori
Nighasan	1. Mirzaganj 2. Trikolia 3. Dhakherwa Khalsa	4. Rakhethi 5. Babiya 6. Gauriya
Dhorhara	1. Abhaypur 2. Maharajpur 3. Raipur	4. Khamariya Kalan 5. Jamhaura 6. Darigapur

5. Brief Introduction of Kheri District

The district is located between latitude 27.6 degree and 28.6 degree North and longitude 80.3 and 81.3 degree East. It shares its boundary with Nepal in the North, Shahjahanpur and Pilibhit in the West, Bahraich in the East and Hardoi and Sitapur in the South. River Sharda divides the district into two parts. River Mohan separates it from Nepal while river Suhena and Kathina separate it from Shahjahanpur. Kheri is the largest district of the state with a total area of 7680 sq. km. and this constitutes roughly 3.2 per cent of the total area of U.P. There are a total of 6 Tehsils and 15 Blocks in the district. Looking at the regional location of the district Kheri forms a part of the Central Region of the state.

6. Demographic Features

According to the Census of India 2001 the total population of the district stood at 32.07 lakh persons of whom 17.4 lakh were males and 14.93 lakh were female. Between 1991 and 2001 the population registered a decadal growth of 32.5 per cent which was much higher than the 22.2 per cent which was registered between 1981 and 1991. Consequently the density per square kilometer also registered a substantial increase from 312 to 419 between 1991 and 2001. However, the density of population was much below that obtained at the state level (690 persons per sq. km.). The SC population of the state at 26.8 per cent to total population is above the state average (21.15 per cent). A very high percentage of the total population (89.2 per cent) resides in rural areas which means that barely around 11 per cent is urban in nature. These are very low figure as compared to the state as whole, where urban population constitutes around 21 per cent of the total state population. Even in terms of the sex ratio the district with the sex ratio of 871 is below the average obtained at the state level (890 during 2001). Yet another indicator where the district lags behind the state is in terms of literacy. Total literacy level is 48.4 per cent as compared to 56.3 per cent in U.P. as a whole. Similarly male and female literacy rates were found to be 59.5 and 35.4 per cent respectively as compared to the corresponding figure of 68.8 and 42.2 per cent in U.P. However, there has been a marked improvement in the literacy rate in the district as compared to 1991. Despite the fact that the overall work participation rate in the district (31.4 per cent) is higher than the state average (23.7 per cent), the work participation rate among females in Kheri is very low at 8.9 per cent (for details See Table 1.1).

Table 1.1: **Demographic Features**

Features	1991	2001
Geographical Area (Sq.km.)	7680	7680
Number of Tehsils	6	6
Number of Blocks	15	15
Number of Inhabited Villages	1712	1709
Average size of the Household	6.0	6.3
Population		
Total	2419240	3207233
Male	1313520	1713908
Female	1105720	1493324
Sex Ratio	842	871
Density of Population	312	417
Decadal Growth of Population (1991-2001)	22.2	32.5
SC Population (%)	28.2	26.8
Rural Population (%)	91.1	89.2
Urban Population (%)	9.9	10.8
ST Population (%)	1.2	1.2
Literacy (%)		
Total	29.3	48.4
Male	40.2	59.5
Female	15.9	35.4
Work Participation Rate (%)		
Person	31.1	31.4
Male	55.4	51.1
Female	2.4	8.9

Source: Census of India, 2001.

If you look at the distribution of the population on a religion wise basis Hindus constitute a little over three-fourth of the total population and this is below the share found in the state as a whole (80.6 per cent). However, Kheri has a slightly higher share of Muslim population and also of the other religious categories. In fact Sikhs population constitutes 2.64 per cent which is much higher as compared to the state average of 0.4 per cent (Table 1.2)

Table 1.2: **Distribution of Population by Religious Categories**

(2001)

Religion	Details			
	Proportion to Total Population		Literacy Rate (Percentage)	Work Participation Rate (Percentage)
	Number	Percentage		
Hindu	2482052	77.41	49.3	31.9
Muslim	612638	19.10	42.3	29.1
Christian	3740	0.12	80.6	44.3
Sikh	84517	2.64	59.2	28.5
Buddhist	21164	0.66	62.1	34.6
Jain	712	0.02	94.2	28.8
Others	1609	0.06	64.8	44.7

Source: Census of India, 2001.

The distribution of main workers in 2001 by different categories reveals that almost 61 per cent are cultivators while another 18 per cent are agricultural laborers. This is quite understandable in the district where rural population percentage is as high as 89 per cent (Table 1.3). Besides the 838041 main workers there were an additional 107551 marginal workers as well. Thus the total workers were estimated at 945552 out of which main workers constituted 88.62 per cent. However, the total number of unemployed persons during 2005-06 was 32423 persons.

Table 1.3: Distribution of Workers (Main) (2001) by Industrial Category

Category	Numbers	Percentage
Cultivator	510251	60.89
Agricultural Labourer	152790	18.23
Household Worker	24690	2.95
Other Workers	150310	17.94
Total Main Workers	838041	100.00

Source: Census of India, 2001.

7. Housing Amenities

If we look at the different housing amenities enjoyed by the people of Kheri district it is revealed that in the district as a whole only around 39 per cent households reside in permanent houses. The condition is even poor in the rural areas, where majority of the population is concentrated. However, in urban areas almost 78 per cent of the households have a permanent house. The poor living condition of the people can be gauged from the fact that around one third of the households are living in one room house and another 28 per cent have only two rooms. These two categories together account for almost two third of the total households. In this connection the situation is similar both in rural and urban areas.

As far as the source of drinking water is concerned the maximum number of households (above 50 per cent) obtain water from hand pump/tube-wells. The next important source is tap water. This facility is enjoyed by merely 46 per cent urban households while among their rural counterparts this percentage was around 38.

In the rural areas the main fuel used for cooking is fire wood with almost 62 per cent households being dependent on this source. The next in importance is cow-dung cakes (21 percent) and crop-residue (14.5 per cent). In the urban areas the situation is much different. Although fire wood continues to remain the most important fuel the dependence on it is much lower at around 47 per cent and the next most important source is LPG with around one- third of the total households using it as the source of fuel. These variations between rural and urban areas are also quite understandable.

As can be expected, the total share of households having toilets is extremely low in rural areas (17.6 per cent) where as over three-fourth of the urban households enjoy this facility. Similarly while around two-third of the urban households are electrified, this percentage is as low as 12.6 per cent among rural households (For details See Table 1.4).

Table 1.4: **Distribution of Households by Housing Amenities**

Amenity	Percentage Distribution of Households		
	Total	Rural	Urban
Total Number of Households (Nos.)	505357	453592	51765
Type of House (%)			
Permanent	39.40	35.00	77.96
Semi Permanent	8.39	8.44	7.12
Serviceable	34.69	37.64	8.83
Non-Serviceable	17.52	18.82	6.08
Unclassifiable	--	--	0.01
Number of Dwelling Rooms (%)			
One Room	33.82	33.92	32.97
Two Rooms	28.59	28.60	28.47
Three Rooms	11.81	11.59	13.75
Four Rooms	5.41	5.09	8.28
Five Rooms	6.02	5.75	8.35
No exclusive room	14.35	15.05	8.18
Source of Drinking Water (%)			
Tap	38.71	37.89	45.89
Handpump/Tubewell	55.31	55.71	51.47
Well	5.68	6.13	1.75
River/Canal	--	0.02	0.01
Any other	0.30	0.22	0.88
Source of Cooking (%)			
Firewood	60.30	61.76	47.54
Crop residue	13.60	14.55	5.30
Cow-dung Cake	19.31	21.34	1.51
Kerosene	1.68	0.38	13.01
LPG	4.39	1.29	31.58
Any other	0.64	0.68	1.06
Availability of Electricity (%)	18.10	12.60	66.30
Availability of Latrine (%)	23.66	17.62	76.58

Source: Census of India, 2001.

Uttar Pradesh – Distribution of Housing Amenities.

8. Land use pattern

Kheri district has a high area under forest. The total area under forest (21.4 per cent) is much higher as compared to state average which is barely around 7 per cent. The district with such a high rural component of total population is obviously dependent on agriculture to a high degree and so the net area shown is 63 per cent of total reported area (See Table 1.5)

Table 1.5: Land Use Pattern

Items	(Hectares)	
	2004-05	Percentage
Forests	164848	21.38
Culturable Wasteland	3473	0.45
Current Fallows	26819	3.48
Land put to Non-Agricultural Uses	75795	9.83
Grazing land	946	0.12
Area under Trees & Orchards	5431	0.70
Net Area Sown	486382	63.08
Area Sown More than Once	232154	47.73
Total Reported Area	771063	100.00
Gross Cultivated Area	718536	147.73
Net Irrigated Area	389909	80.17
Gross Irrigated Area	558470	143.23

Source: Sankhyakiya Patrika, Kheri, 2006.

The district is dependent on agriculture since an overwhelming proportion of total population resides in rural areas. This had already been indicated by the fact that cultivators and agricultural labourers put together account for around 79 per cent of the main workers in the district. However, the district is lucky since around 80 per cent of the net area shown is irrigated. In fact, this percentage is 4 per cent points above the average obtained at the state level. If we look at irrigation on a source wise basis the single most important source of irrigation is private tube well and they account for 93.6 per cent of the total irrigated area. The only other source of some significance is canal irrigation whose contribution is merely around 5.5 per cent (See Table 1.6)

Table 1.6: Irrigated Area by Source

Source	(Hectares)	
	Area	Percentage
Canal	21633	5.55
Government Tubewell	3116	0.80
Private Tubewell	365004	93.62
Wells	30	0.00
Ponds	120	0.03
Others	6	0.00
Total	389909	100.00

Source: Sankhyakiya Patrika, Kheri, 2006.

Despite the fact that a high percentage of the total area is cultivated and around four fifth of the area is irrigated as well the farmer still finds agriculture a difficult proposition particularly in the Tarai region because of soil and climatic condition. Five out of the 15 blocks are fully in the Tarai belt while another 4 are partially in it. The soil is black clay soil

which can absorb water and remain moist for long period. The Tarai area is also prone to floods and consequent water logging creates a serious problem and hampers the agricultural operation as well as yield.

During the monsoon the large area of the district gets flooded and this adversely affects the economic condition of the people. The soil remains moist for long period and so agricultural operation in the post monsoon period are adversely affected. Flood waters cut along the river banks and at times villages get wiped away causing major damage not only to human and animal life but also to people's property. The financial assistance received toward flood relief invariably falls short of the need to compensate the actual losses suffered by the people.

Another characteristic of the district is the heavy concentration of the cultivators in the lowest land holding size (below 0.5 hectares). Around 47.25 per cent cultivators are in this category. However, between them they possess barely 16.17 per cent of the total area under land holdings. The next lowest land holding size is between 0.5 to 1 hectare and over one fourth of the total cultivators are found in this category but they own only around 19.3 per cent of the total cultivated land.

9. Important crops and productivity

The important crops of the district are wheat, paddy and sugar cane. During 2004-05 the area under these crop and their corresponding yield rates were as follows:

Crop	Area under the Crop (Ha.)	Area as a per cent of Gross Cropped area	Average yield Qts/Ha
Sugar Cane	211097	29.38	605.92
Wheat	204074	28.40	27.87
Paddy	192074	26.73	20.83

The significance of these crops is highlighted by the area under each crop. What is equally significant is the fact that the yield rates of the district for these crops are marginally higher than those obtained in the state as a whole. For example the yield of sugar cane at the state level is 608 qts/hectare. Similarly for wheat and paddy it was found to be 25.0 and 18.1 qts/hectare respectively. This points out the fact that if the menace of floods, causing agricultural land to get cut away and the problem of water logging, agriculture could have flourished leading to the improvement in living condition of the cultivators.

10. Livestock population of the district

Kheri district has a sizeable livestock population. Milch animals (cows and buffaloes) account for a total of 3.39 lakh animals indicating that the district has a high potential to specialize in milk and milk products. During the year 2005-06 the state had 296 primary milk producing societies with a membership of 17040 and the total value of production was estimated at around Rs. 232.32 Lakh.

Besides sizeable cattle population, the district also has 3.2 Lakh goats, over 16 thousand sheep and over 31 thousand pigs. Poultry is another area which is significant as there were over 1.76 lakh birds (See Table 1.7).

Table 1.7: Details of Livestock (2003)

Type of Animal	Number
Drought Animals	
Bullock	105073
Buffaloes	95318
Milch Animals	
Cows	222076
Buffaloes	117043
Young Stock	
Cattle	167754
Buffaloes	137271
Others	
Sheep	16209
Goats	319664
Horse	3939
Pigs	31373
Other Animals	1188
Total Livestock	1216911
Poultry	175885

Source: Sankhyakiya Patrika, Kheri, 2006.

Yet another area which can be developed is fisheries. During 2005-06 the fisheries department had 24 departmental ponds/reservoirs covering a total area of 368.89 hectares. 11 societies with a total membership of 545 persons were functioning in this district. The department distributed 1.5 Lakh fish lings during the year and earned revenue of Rs.11.26 Lakh. Total fish production from the government ponds was 460.5 quintals. Besides this 320 hectares is under private control where this activity is being undertaken and during 2005-06 the production was 1297 quintals.

All these facts which have been discussed point out towards the fact that the district has a good potential to develop its animal husbandry sector. This will not only prove beneficial in supplementing the income from agriculture but also boost the overall economy of the district.

To provide support to the animal husbandry sector the district has 43 veterinary hospitals, 28 livestock development centers, 56 artificial insemination centers and 12 sheep development centers (See Table 1.8).

Table 1.8: Veterinary Services (2005-06)

Items	Numbers
Veterinary Hospitals	43
Livestock Development Centre	28
Artificial Insemination Centre	56
Artificial Insemination Sub-Centre	--
Animal Reproduction Farm	--
Sheep Development Centre	--
Pig Development Centre	12
Piggery Units	--
Poultry Units	--

Source: Sankhyakiya Patrika, Kheri, 2006..

11. Industrial base of the District

(i) Registered Factories (1948 Act)

During 2005-06 although there were 155 registered factories in Kheri the actual number of working units was only 53 indicating thereby that around two-third were not functioning for one reason or the other. Total person working in these units was 9657 which means that on an average each unit employees around 62 persons. However, with working units being only 53 it is not known as to the status of those who are employed in the non-working units.

Since sugar cane is the main cash crop of the district, there are as many as 9 large sugar mills in the district and one or two are coming up in the near future. Even then there is scope for setting up another couple of sugar factories in the district considering the availability of sugar cane. Beside these there are also around 50-60 Khandsari units.

The other registered factories are mainly rice and flour mills. This goes to highlight the fact that the industrial base of registered factories primarily revolves around agro-based industries.

(ii) Small Scale Units

Besides the registered factories Kheri also had 5140 small scale units in 2005-06 with a total employment of 13555 persons. These included engineering units, handicappers, processing unit and other miscellaneous categories of units. However, there are no records to indicate the actual number of units which are actually working.

(iii) Khadi Gramodyog Units

The Khadi Gramodyog organization also facilitates small entrepreneurs to set up units of various types and the figures of 2005-06 indicate that a total of 1758 such units existed in the district with a total employment of 5591. Even among these units it is generally observed that the degrees of sickness is high and so mere numbers do not always present the true pictures.

On the whole we may say that the district does not have a sound industrial base and most of the industrial units are mainly agro based processing unit (Please refer to Table 1.9).

Table 1.9: Industries/Small Scale Units (2005-06)

Details	Numbers
Registered Factories	
Total Units	155
Number of Units Working	53
Average Daily Workers/Labourers Employed	9657
Value of Production (2002-03) (Rs.'000)	9737458
Khadi and Small Scale Units	
Khadi Units	1758
Employment in Khadi Units	5591
Small Scale Units	5140
Employment in Small Scale Units	13553
Number of Industrial Areas	2
Number of Industrial Estates	5

Source: Sankhyakiya Patrika, Kheri, 2006.

12. Sericulture

Sericulture is yet another activity found in the district. This activity can easily be taken up without too much of financial investment nor does it require a large area. More over the gestation period is also short which implies that the entrepreneur does not have to wait long before he can start earning. Three main aspects are involved in sericulture and individual can select any or more than one out of them. They are mulberry cultivation; breeding silkworms and cocoon production and; making silk yarn. On an average 8-10 Kg of cocoons yield 1 Kg of silk yarn and the price of silk yarn fluctuates between Rs 1200-1500 per Kg.

During 2005-06 the seven government silk farms had a total area of 81.65 acres and total mulberry plantation was done on an area of 58.6 acre (72 per cent of total farm area). The total number of beneficiaries who developed cocoon was 315 and targeted quantity for breeding silk worm was 31000 DFL. The estimated production of cocoon on the government farms was 9710 Kgs. Besides this an estimated 1695 Kgs. of cocoons were also produced on privately owned farms.

It may, therefore be said that there is scope for further development of this activity in Kheri District.

13. Availability of Infrastructure

Infrastructure, as is universally accepted, facilitates the process of economic development. It is, therefore, desirable that infrastructure both economic and social should be well developed to ensure speedy growth of the economy.

(i) Economic Infrastructure

A proper network of roads facilitates the movement of goods and services to all parts of the district and also in marketing of the finished products. However, from the point of roads, the district has barely 28 kilometers of national highways and 347 kms. of state highways this goes to show that connectivity of the district with other district and other state is poor. Only around 61 per cent of inhabited villages are connected to all weather roads. Even with respect to rail connectivity the district suffers because only 25 kms of broad gauge track passes through the district and even the length of meter gauge is a dismal 143 kms. These figures both for road and railway tracks are highly inadequate for a district with the largest geographical area among the 70 district of the state and having the population of in excess of 32 lakh.

Table 1.10: Indicators of Economic Infrastructure

Indicators	Numbers	Per lakh Population
Length of Roads (Kms) (2004-05)		
National Highways	28	—
State Highways	347	—
Main District Roads	319	—
Other District/Village Roads	1287	—
Total Number of Villages Connected with All Weather Roads	1052	—
Number of Bus Stations/Stops	180	—
Length of Railway Lines (Kms.)		
Broad Gauge	25	—
Meter Gauge	143	—
Electricity		
Percentage of Electrified Villages	74.8	—
Number of Electrified Private Tubewells/Pumpsets	15356	478.83
Banking (2005-06)		
Number of Commercial Bank Branches	87	2.71
Rural Banks (Nos.)	43	1.34
Co-operative Banks (Nos.)	60	1.87
Rural Banks (Nos.)	—	—
Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (Nos.)	9	0.28
Number of Post Offices (2005-06)	387	12.06
Number of Telephone Connections (2005-06)	33531	1045.56
Number of Telegraph Offices (2005-06)	1	0.03
Institutional Loans (2005-06)	Amount (Rs.'000)	C/D Ratio
Cooperative and Rural Development Banks	3819631	—
Commercial Banks	12154294	—

Source: Sankhyakiya Patrika, Kheri, 2006.

Although on paper 74.8 per cent of the villages are electrified the actual condition related to power is quite bad because power supply is normally erratic with hours of load shedding. The district also has over 15000 electrified private tube well/pump sets.

In terms of financial institution Kheri had 87 branches of commercial banks which worked out to 2.71 branches per lakh of population. Population served per branch was around 36000 and this also did not fare favorably as compared to the state average of around 20000. Institutional finance as we are aware is the important means of facilitating investment. In the absence of such opportunity people are forced to take non-institutional options and end up paying unusually high rates of interest.

The number of post offices and telephone connection indicate that their number per lakh of population is around 12 and 1045 respectively (For all these figure please refer the Table 1.10).

(ii) Indicators of Social Development

The main indicator of social development are facilities related to education and health. As far as education is concerned there were almost 70 primary schools per lakh of population while the corresponding figure for upper primary schools was around 18.5. Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan the norms which have been laid down are that there must be one primary school within 1 Km of each village and for a population of 300 persons. Similarly there should be one upper primary school within 3 Km of every village and for a population of 800. These norms are mostly met in the district and the short falls which exist are likely to be removed shortly because additional schools are planned in each financial year to achieve the required number. However, from the point of view of higher education as well as technical education facilities are definitely lacking in the district. In the district having a total population of 32 Lakh there are only 7 degree colleges and three PG colleges (Please See Table 1.11).

Coming to medical facility there are 2.09 PHC and 0.19 CHC per Lakh of population. The norms which have been laid down are 1 PHC per 30000 of population and 1 CHC per lakh of population. These figure also indicate that in Kheri both PHC and CHC fall short of the prescribed norms (please see Table 1.11). As far as allopathic hospitals and dispensary is concerned their numbers was barely 2.2 per Lakh of population in year 2005-06 and the availability of beds in these hospital/dispensaries was only 10.9 which again is reflective of the poor medical facilities found in Kheri.

Table 1.11: **Indicators of Social Development (2005-06)**

Indicators	Numbers	Per lakh
Educational Facilities		
Number of Primary Schools	2241	69.88
Number of Upper Primary Schools	595	18.55
High School/Intermediate Colleges	124	3.87
Degree Colleges	7	0.22
PG Colleges	3	0.09
University	--	--
Medical Colleges	--	--
Engineering Colleges	--	--
Polytechniques/ITIs	3	0.09
Other Professional Institutions	1	0.03
Medical Facilities		
Number of PHCs	67	2.09
Number of CHCs	6	0.19
Allopathic Hospitals	5	0.16
Homeopathic Hospitals	24	0.75
Unani Hospitals	4	0.12
Ayurvedic Hospitals	34	1.06
Number of Police Stations	22	0.69

Source: Sankhyakiya Patrika, Kheri, 2006.

Table 1.11(a): **A Comparative Picture of Kheri and U.P. with Respect to Selected Indicators of Socio-Economic Development (2006-07)**

Indicators	Kheri	Uttar Pradesh
1. Health Related (Per Lakh of Population)		
(a) No. of Allopathic Hospitals/Dispensaries	4.00	2.97
(b) No. of Beds in Allopathic Hospitals/Dispensaries	20.51	36.80
(c) No. of Ayurvedic/Unani/Homeopathic Hospitals	1.74	2.07
(d) No. of Beds in Ayurvedic/Unani/Homeopathic Hospitals	7.96	5.72
(e) No. of Primary Health Centres	0.00	0.00
(f) No. of Child/Women Welfare Centres	11.11	11.40
2. Education (Per Lakh of Population)		
(a) Primary Schools	64	74
(b) Upper Primary Schools	21	24
(c) Higher Secondary Schools	3	8
(d) Teacher – Students Ratio		
Primary Schools	109	88
Upper Primary Schools	98	82
Higher Secondary Schools	62	49
3. Roads (2005-06)		
(a) Total Length of Roads per lakh of population	72.64	88.85
(b) Total Length of Roads per 1000 sq.km. of Area	339.06	670.73
4. Electricity		
(a) Per Capita Consumption (KWh)	59.8	180.4
(b) Percentage of Electrified Villages	93.93	85.32
5. Banking Services		
No. of Bank Branches per lakh of Population	3.6	4.6
6. Drinking Water		
Percentage of Hamlets with Drinking Water Facilities	91.8	98.0

Source: Indicators of Development, Economics & Statistics Division, State Planning Institute, Lucknow (2007).

It is quite evident from Table 1.11(a) that the development indicators in Kheri are all below the State average in all aspects of socio-economic infrastructure development with only a few exceptions as found in the case of two indicators of health.

14. Important Development Programmes of the Government

The Budget allocations for the district plan over the last 5 years has been as follows:

Year	Amount in Crores
2002-03	36.33
2003-04	36.36
2004-05	40.40
2005-06	64.68
2006-07	96.99

These figure reveal that while budget allocation was rising marginally between 2002-03 and 2004-05 it took a quantum jump during the next 2 years. In fact, the increase was almost 50 percent in 2006-07 as compared to previous year. This amount is spent on various development schemes which are being implemented in the district. Table 1.12 provides the details regarding some important schemes which were implemented during 2006-07. The Table reveals that in all the item the amount released was less than the sanctioned amount. For some items it was actually less than 50 percent such as in the case of animal husbandry, employment scheme, secondary education and Peya Jal Nigam etc. The only exceptions where amount released was in excess of sanctioned amount were road and bridges and allopathic health care. However, what was significant was that the amount spent on the individual schemes was 100 percent in all cases with the sole exception of Swarn Jayanti Swarozgar Yojana where utilization was barely 45 percent. On the whole, therefore, we may say that the allocated funds are been utilized fully.

Table 1.12: Details of Amount Sanctioned and Spent on Some Important Scheme (2006-07)

(Rs. in '000)

Name of the Department	Sanctioned Amount	Amount Released	Amount Spent
Agriculture	2386	2039	2039
Horticulture	996	340	340
Sugarcane	20900	11055	11055
Minor Irrigation	65525	57695	57695
Animal Husbandry	23888	9395	9395
Dairy	5600	2400	2400
Fisheries	153	133	133
Forest	56962	34953	34953
SJSY	2550	24166	10903
Employment Schemes	166300	64189	64189
Panchayati Raj	24093	13041	13041
Rural Small Scale Industry	283	145	145
Roads and Bridges	84348	116513	116513
Elementary Education	33643	29136	29136
Secondary Education	22384	2100	2100
Allopathic Health Care	37986	49352	49352
Peyajal Nigam	57854	24648	24648
Scheduled Castes	51227	38767	38757
Minority Schemes	3600	3342	3342

Source: Samajarthik Sameeksha, District Statistics Office, Kheri, 2006-07.

The progress of work done under the 20 Point Programme is given in Table 1.13. It highlights the fact that in most schemes the target have been fully achieved. The only scheme where achievements have been below the targeted amount are Indira Awas Yojana, assistance to SC households, plantation on private lands and in Village Electrification Programme.

Table 1.13: **Progress of Work done under the 20-Point Programme: 2006-07**

Name of Programme	Unit	Target	Achievement	Achievement (% Terms)
Land Allotment Programme	Acre	209	241	115.31
Child Care Programme	Nos.	105105	105264	100.15
ICDS	Nos.	15	15	100.00
Aanganwadi Sanchayi	Nos.	2372	2372	100.00
Assistance to SC Households				
(a) Rural Development Department	Nos.	4355	3053	70.10
(b) Social Welfare Department	Nos.	4830	5094	105.47
Assistance to ST Households				
(a) Rural Development Department	Nos.	217	217	100.00
(b) Social Welfare Department	Nos.	217	217	100.00
Indira Awas Yojana	Nos.	10850	9666	89.09
Slum Area Development	Nos.	7500	7720	102.00
Plantation on Private Land	Nos.	8778000	4882300	55.62
Plantation on Private and Public Land	Hectares	1648	1648	100.00
Village Electrification	Nos.	520	365	70.19
Electrified Pump Sets	Nos.	126	126	100.00
Bio-gas Plants	Nos.	80	80	100.00

Source: Samajarthik Sameeksha, District Statistics Office, Kheri, 2006-07.

15. Schemes being implemented by Minorities Welfare Department

The minority welfare department is presently running a few schemes for minorities and a few have recently been announced and will be implemented soon. A brief description of some of them is being give below:

(i) Scholarship to Minority Children

This scheme is to benefit the minority children in the general caste category because for the SC/ST and OBC's a different department is providing the funds. Upto the primary level each child gets Rs 300 per annum while for those in classes VI to VIII the entitlement is Rs 480 per annum. However, for children studying in class IX or X the annual scholarship amount is Rs 720. The total amount of money which was disbursed towards scholarship during the last 3 years is being indicated below.

Year	Class I - V		Class VI - VIII		Class IX - X	
	Total Students	Amount (Rs)	Total Students	Amount (Rs)	Total Students	Amount (Rs)
2004-05	31944	95,83,200	4197	20,14,560	2055	14,79,600
2005-06	27393	82,17,900	4445	21,33,600	1247	8,97,840
2006-07	26597	79,79,100	4719	22,65,120	1921	13,83,120

Source : Office of the Minority Welfare Officer, Kheri

(ii) Term Loan for Self Employment Generation

The term loan schemes aims to facilitate individuals to take up activities of their preference and become self employed. For some activities the maximum loan is Rs 25,000 while for others the upper limit is Rs 50,000. The repayment has to be made in 5 years and the rate of interest is 7 percent. Each individual has to file his guarantee papers on stamp papers worth Rs 110. Repayment has to be made on a quarterly basis. In case of defaulters a case is filed against them in the Labour Court in Lucknow.

The selection of beneficiaries is conducted by a selection committee headed by the CDO and according to the Term Loan Manual. For each year the target (beneficiaries to be selected) is given by the Lucknow Office. In Kheri around 26 beneficiaries are selected each year. The only exception was in 2002-03 when the total beneficiaries were 60.

The type of activities which are normally taken by these beneficiaries include setting up of small provision/general merchant shops, selling and repairing watches, tailoring, embroidery, dealing in bangles, selling spare parts and ready made garments, undertaking dairy activity and tent houses.

The amount disbursed over the last 5 years is being indicated below:

Year	Minority Group			Total Beneficiaries	Sanctioned upto Rs 25,000		Sanctioned upto Rs 50,000		Total amount disbursed (Rs)
	Muslim	Sikh	Christian		No	Amount Disbursed (Rs)	No	Amount Disbursed (Rs)	
2002-03	58	2	0	60	53	12,58,750	7	3,32,688	15,91,438
2003-04	26	0	0	26	22	5,22,500	4	1,71,000	6,93,500
2004-05	28	1	0	29	20	5,40,000	9	4,05,000	6,45,000
2005-06	24	1	1	26	11	2,97,000	15	6,75,000	9,72,000
2006-07	25	1	0	26	12	3,24,000	14	6,30,000	9,54,000

Source: Office of the Minority Welfare Officer, Kheri

(iii) Controls the functioning of Madarsa upto the Primary and Upper Primary Level

The salaries of teacher employed in Madarsa is disbursed through this department. It also disburses scholarship to all the children who are enrolled in these Madarasa.

(iv) Modernization of Madarasas

Under this scheme the department provides funds for the appointment of two teachers in each Madarasa. One for teaching Hindi and English and the other for teaching Math's and Science so that the students also learn these subjects and are able to keep abreast

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with those studying in Basic Shiksha Parishad or private schools. The salaries of these teachers have been fixed Rs 300 per month which is quite low.

New scheme announced in 2007 :

(i) Merit-cum means scholarship for technical education through notification number GI-12/52-1-2007 dated 10/9/2007. This is a Central Government scheme under which tuition and other non-refundable fees upto Rs 20,000 per annum will be paid by the government. The cheque will be drawn in favour of the teaching institution. Besides this hostel fees upto Rs 10,000 per annum will also be paid. In case of students not living in hostel the amount sanctioned is Rs 5000. These amount will be given directly to the students. However, only students whose households income does not exceed Rs 50,000 per annum are eligible to avail this benefit.

For this year the targeted figure is 25 students but only 15 names have been recommended.

(ii) Subsidizing the fees of coaching institutions- This scheme aims at providing financial assistance to minority students who are desirous of attending coaching institutes to appear for admission to institutions offering professionals courses such as engineering, M.B.B.S. and M.B.A. etc. The maximum amount of financial assistance to be provided is Rs 15,000. However, to become eligible for assistance the annual income of the households should not exceed Rs 50,000 per annum. This scheme has been announced by the state government.

(iii) Marriage assistance scheme for marriage of girls - This too is a scheme which the state government announced through their GO dated 26/9/2007. Only those households who belong to BPL category will be eligible under this scheme. Special preference will be given to widows and handicapped persons. The other qualifying clauses are that it should be the girl's first marriage and that she should have attained a minimum age of 18 years. From any household a maximum number of two girls can avail the benefit of the scheme which carries a grant of Rs 10,000 per marriage.

16. Potential, Problems and Possibilities of Development in the District

(i) Agriculture and Allied Activities

Because sugar cane is the major cash crop from which cultivators receive assured income, they are not keen on growing other commercial crops. However, there is scope to

diversify agriculture. For this the cultivation of horticulture crops such as banana, mango and guava can be taken up on a larger area than at present specially by those farmers who have land holding of two or more hectares. Yet another activity which can be taken up effectively is mushroom cultivation since the hot and humid condition which prevail in the district are ideally suited for undertaking this activity.

The major problem which agriculture is faced with is floods and perennial water logging. NABARD has sanctioned various projects under its Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for the embankment of Sharda and Ghagra rivers. When completed it is expected that these projects will be successful in effectively controlling the periodic damages which flood cause each year. The District does not have Agricultural Research Station, Farmers Training Centers or Krishi Vigyan Kendras. In their absence proper extension services and technical support are not forthcoming.

Horticulture, if developed properly will also have to be effectively backed with adequate marketing support which is lacking at present.

The district is also climatically suited to sericulture development. In fact some schemes are being implemented such as the Ambedkar Vishesh Rozgar Yojana and Mahila Resham Pariyojna. The sericulture department imparts training to farmers, provides extension support and arranges for supply of seedlings for mulberry plantation as well as DFL for cocoon rearing. In fact the district also has a reeling plant where cocoon are sold by the farmers. However, there is need to promote the activities by making easy access to institutional credit on a timely basis, provide training more regularly and also equipment and silk worm houses. The blocks of Lakhimpur, Mohammadi, Palia and Mitauli are having the highest potential for sericulture development.

(ii) The Forest Wealth

Kheri, as has been indicated earlier, has a high forest area therefore there is need to take up commercial forestry seriously by growing poplar, eucalyptus, bamboo and jatropha. Both poplar and eucalyptus are suited under the climatic conditions which prevail in the district. Plywood industry will be encouraged with the growth of these species.

Jatropha has special significance since its seeds contain 20-30 per cent oil content and can therefore, be replaced as a fossil fuel. In the Indian context its importance can be viewed in the light of the fact that our oil import bill is to the tune of Rs80-90,000 crores annually. Thus even if 5 to 10 per cent saving would mean a considerable saving of foreign

exchange. *Jatropha* also has other commercial uses and the soap, candle and paint industry are using *jatropha* oil. This further highlights the significance of the plant.

Bamboo is a plant which has multiple uses and is a very effective soil binder. With increasing waste lands in forest and no-forest areas bamboo cultivation is the ideal solution for improving the vegetational cover.

(iii) Dairy Development

Despite the fact that the District has high numbers of dairy animals, their average yield is low. Moreover, although there are 237 milk cooperative societies on paper a large number of them are defunct as a result of no-payment of dues by the Dugdh Sangh. Presently only 173 cooperatives are functional in 6 blocks which have 4 milk routes. The Dugdh Sangh has chilling plants in the district with a chilling capacities of 10,000 liter per day and 30,000 storage capacities. Unfortunately these were lying defunct till 2003-04 and have only since being revived. But this capacity is much below the actual milk production.

Therefore, there is need to introduce more milk routes, develop additional chilling capacities, arrange markets for sale and purchase of good breed animals, to clean all dues towards all milk societies to effectively revive the Dugdh Sangh, assure regular supply of good quality of animal feed and proper veterinary services.

(iv) Sheep/Goats/Pigs

The District has SC/ST population of over six lakh and rearing of sheep, goats and pigs are generally popular among them. Through this they can supplement their low income from agriculture since goats and pigs are prolific breeders and do not require any special arrangement for fodder. Consequently expenditure required on rearing them is not too high. However, this activity has not been taken up sound commercial lines although the potential to develop it is very much present.

(v) Fisheries

The District has large water areas for development of pisciculture as it has numerous ponds, reservoirs and rivers. The FFDA is providing both training and financial assistance to develop this activity. The fisheries department also has a fingerlings production unit located in Gola with a capacity of ten lakh fingerlings.

To give proper impetus to develop pisciculture there is need to set up a cold storage for fish. This could be taken up by the department or on a PPP basis. Moreover there is no plant producing feed for fish and presently fish feed is brought from outside the district. Although there is demand in the local market and fish is also transported to nearby towns and cities, there

is need to develop a mandi for marketing of fish. The farmers need to be encouraged to undertake integrated projects of fisheries along with dairy, poultry, pigery etc so as to economize costs and improve returns. Banks should come forward to provide credit to them on easy terms. Some of the blocks which have good potential for development are Lakhimpur, Gola, Bhejam, Nakha, Pallia and Nigahsan.

(vi) The Non-Farm Sector

Despite the fact that nearly 80 percent of the main workers are engaged in agricultural activities, around one fifth engaged in non-agricultural activities such as registered factories, small scale enterprises, khadi units and the service sector etc. Therefore, development of this sector is a priority because of their useful contribution to the economy of the districts and incomes of those engaged in it. This SSI and khadi units are found in the rural areas of the district. Some of the important industrial activities found in Kheri on blockwise basis are as follows:

S.No	Name of Activity	Block (s)
A	Dari making, basket and pottery making	Bijua, Bankeganj, Pallia, Nighasan, Ramiabad and Dhorhara
B	Chikan work	Lakhimpur, Mohammadi and Phoolbehad
C	Sweater weaving	Pasgawan and Mitauli
D	Printing and Dona Pattal Making	Gola
E	Vegetable Processing	Nakaha

Among the registered factories Kheri has 9 large scale sugar mills and a number of Khandsari units as well. However, keeping in mind the extensive area under sugar cane there is scope for setting up at least two more sugar mills.

Because of the abundance of sugar and Khandsari units, large quantities of bagasse is available and this can be effectively utilized in the manufacture of paper and block boards. At present no such unit is located in the district and so scope exists for the setting up of at least one such unit in the district.

It has been indicated that Kheri is an important district from the point of view of milk production. The industries department should therefore, encourage the setting of units producing milk products.

If horticulture can effectively be developed the need set up food processing unit would automatically gain significance.

Since a considerable area of the district is under forest and it is suitable for plantation of poplar, eucalyptus and bamboo the district automatically becomes suited for setting up of ply wood factories and for developing a furniture industry.

In the area around Kheri town there are few households which are skilled carpet weavers. They go all the way to Bhadohi to seek employment in the carpet unit located there. However, if proper facilities are provided to them then this craft could also be promoted around Kheri township itself.

In order to encourage development of small scale industries the District Industries Centre should conduct Entrepreneur Development Programmes and other related programmes on a regular basis for the prospective entrepreneur and also create awareness among them about the various different units which can be set up in their area. The DIC can also involve banks in the training process to achieve better credit linkages.

For encouraging handicrafts, training programmes for master craftsman need to be undertaken on a regular basis to keep them informed about the new design, market and updated technologies. For this there is a need to develop production centers.

In order to step up the pace of industrial development it is desirable to establish two more industrial estates. Since some activities are already going on in some blocks, small industrial clusters may be developed around them to promote these activities.

(vii) Infrastructure Development

(a) Roads-The most disturbing aspect which the district is faced with is maintenance of roads. There are four main rivers in the districts which cause wide spread flooding during monsoon and considerable water logging. Being in the Tarai belt the moisture level is also high. All these factors cause heavy damage to the roads each year and as a result maintenance of road is an extremely costly proposition. Thus it is essential that the embankments along Sharda and Ghagra rivers should be completed as soon as possible.

The road connectivity of Kheri with other District and other States is poor since there is only 28 kms of national highway passing through it and even the state highways cover only 347 kms and only around 61 per cent of the inhabited villages are connected with all weather roads.

This is therefore indicative of the fact that road infrastructure deserves special attention of the district authorities.

(b) Rail-Rail connectivity is even poorer since only 25 kms of broad gauge line and 143 kms of meter gauge line pass through the district.

Development of transport network both by road and rail becomes an essential prerequisite for rapid development since developed transport network paves the way for easy access to the market both for the raw materials as well as finished products.

(c) **Power Situation-** As is the problem all over the state even Kheri suffers from an acute power problem. As has been indicated earlier around 93 per cent irrigation is done through private tube wells and pump sets. Moreover, all the industries both big and small also require adequate power of good quality. During the year 2005-06 out of the total electricity consumes in the district nearly 59.5 per cent was utilized for domestic use and appor.9 per cent in the agricultural sector. These two together accounted for almost 87.5 per cent of the total electricity consume. Therefore, the consumption in industrial and tertiary sectors was barely around 12-13 per cent. Even the availability was actual below the desired level.

Like transport this is another infrastructure which needs to be adequately developed to guarantee assured and timely supply of good quality power.

(d) **Institutional Finance-**The government should ensure that institutional finance be made available for various activities with ease so that those in need can avail loans on time and in adequate amount in accordance with their requirements. There are various activities which have potential in the district but for which bank are not easily providing credit facilities.

(e) **Medical Facility-**Even with respect to medical facility it had been pointed out earlier that the district lags behind with respect to medical facilities if we go in accordance to the prescribe norms laid down for establishment of PHC and CHC. One of the major problem in the district is that the quality of drinking water is not good. It contains oil and arsenic above the desired level and this causes all sorts of stomach ailments. It was reported in Lakhimpur city that all those who can afford are drinking only water purified by aqua guards or consuming bottled water which is safe for drinking. The CMO confirmed the fact that the quality of water is really bad. He also pointed out that safe drinking water is available only after a particular depth, but people are not boring deep enough partially because of their ignorance and also because the deeper the bore the higher the cost involved and people do not have sufficient funds for deep boring. It is, therefore, urgent to create awareness among people in this connection and also make easy finance available for deep boring. The government can also set up water purification plants to ensure safe potable water to its population.

Although various problems are found in the district because of which it is lagging behind in the process of development some efforts, as suggested above, could prove useful in stepping up the pace of economic development and help in restoring parity of Kheri with some of the developed districts.

CHAPTER II

SITUATION ANALYSIS OF THE SELECTED VILLAGES OF KHERI DISTRICT

In the previous chapter it had been pointed out that our field survey was conducted in 30 villages spread over 5 Tehsils of the district. We will now try to analyze the situation, as it exists in the villages presently.

1. General Features

Out of the total population around 67 per cent were Hindus while around 30 were Muslims. The rest (around 2.3 per cent) belonged to the Sikh community (Table 2.1). If we look at the occupational distribution of workers, cultivators accounted for around 60.5 per cent while around 25.5 per cent were agricultural workers. Thus, the dependence on agriculture becomes obvious with around 86 per cent of the workforce being engaged in the activity. It obviously follows that other categories become less significant. In fact the only other category of workers are found are in household industry, construction and other workers (Table 2.2).

Table 2.1: Religion-wise population

Religion	Number of households	Population	Percentage	Average family size
Hindu	4281	26126	67.29	6.11
Muslim	1932	12928	30.37	6.69
Sikh	149	611	2.34	4.10
Others (Specify)	6362	39700	100.00	6.24

Table 2.2: Occupational Pattern

Category	Percentage
Cultivators	60.59
Agricultural Labour	25.54
Animal Husbandry	0.00
Mining	0.00
Household Industry	5.57
Non-household Industry	0.00
Construction	3.21
Trade & Commerce	0.00
Transport & Communication	0.00
Other workers	5.10
Total	100.00

The land use pattern also highlights adequately the dependence on agriculture with net area sown being around 80 per cent of the total reporting area, and around 57 per cent of the area sown is sown more than once (for details related to land use pattern please see Table 2.3).

Table 2.3: Land Use Pattern

Item	Area	Percentage
1. Total reporting area	12370	57.14
2. Forest	397	3.19
3. Uncultivable land	905	7.32
4. Non-agricultural uses	505	4.08
5. Cultivable Water	105	0.85
6. Pasture/Grazing	20	0.16
7. Orchards	122	0.99
8. Other Fallow	56	0.45
9. Current Fallow	318	2.57
10. Net Sown Area	9942	80.37
11. Area Sown more than once	5681	18.90
Total	30025	100.00

Private Tubewells are the most important source of irrigation and they alone account for an overwhelming 94.68 per cent of the total irrigated area. Needless to say that the other sources contribute very little toward irrigation in Kheri (Table 2.4).

Table 2.4: Sources of Irrigation

Source	Percentage of Irrigated Area
Canal	2.01
Tube well (Govt.)	0.59
Tube well (private)	94.68
Hand pump	2.14
Wells	0.00
Ponds, etc.	0.56
Other	0.02
Total	100.00

2. Facilities in the Villages

In terms of roads, only around two-thirds of our villages were connected by all weather roads and the distance from the district road was around 4.5 kms. This clearly indicates that some efforts are desirable to connect the villages by all weather roads (Table 2.5).

Table 2.5: Facilities Available in the Villages

Facilities	Number of villages	Percentage
A. Type of Roads		
1. All weather road	20	66.67
2. Kharanja	30	100.00
3. Kutcha-pucca mixed	7	23.67
4. Kutcha	30	100.00
5. Average distance from main road	4.59	
B. Electricity		
1. Villages with electricity	30	100.00
2. Villages without electricity	0	
3. Households with electricity connection	26	86.67
4. Number of Domestic Connections	981 (38 Average)	
5. Number of Agricultural Connections	166 (17 Average)	
6. Number of Commercial Connections	57 (11 Average)	
7. Average Hours of Daily Supply	5.2	

Although all the villages had electricity passing through them only in 26 villages people had actually opted for taking electrical connections. In all these villages some people at least had taken electrical connections and average number of connections worked out to around 38. However, when it came to connections for agricultural and commercial purposes there were only 10 villages having agricultural and 5, which had commercial connections, and the average number of households worked out to 17 and 11 households respectively (Table 2.5).

As far as drinking water facilities are concerned private hand pumps were by far the most popular source of obtaining water for domestic requirements. The other but somewhat less important source were public handpumps. It was encouraging to note that around 98 per cent of the privately owned and 92 per cent public hand pumps were actually functional during the time of our visit to these villages (Table 2.6).

Table 2.6: Drinking water

Source	Total villages	% Functional
Public well	234	23.50
Private well	162	30.86
Public Hand pumps	692	92.05
Private Hand pumps	6631	98.13
Public Tube well	1	0.00
Private Tube well	45	100.00
Public stand post	2	0.00
Tab water inside house	2	0.00
Tank/river	0	0.00
Others	0	0.00

Unfortunately in only two out of our total villages did we find some households with toilet facilities. The total sanitation campaign (TSC) has begun in most villages but its results are not visible as yet and so the village folk go to their fields for defecation.

3. Educational Facilities

All the 30 villages had a primary school and in the case of 15 villages the schools are connected with a pucca road. However, the same number have to be reached by using a Kutcha or mixed road. Sixty per cent villages also had a Middle School but in case of all but one village they were located not very far away even if not within the village. Thus the average distance, which children cover to attend school, is less than 1.5 kms. However, when it comes to High School/Higher Secondary School for boys and girls, only one village was lucky to have a school of this category within the village but in around 70 per cent villages this facility is available within the block. Madarsas were found within 8 villages and in another 17 within the block. Only two villages had non-formal education centres. The details related to availability of educational facilities, distance which children have to cover, and the nature of roads which connect people to various educational facilities, are all provided in Table 2.7.

Table 2.7: Educational Facilities (put number of villages)

Type	Place				Distance (average) (kms)	Type of road			
	Within Village	Within Block	Within Panchayat	Within District		Pucca	Semi Pucca	Kutcha	Kutcha Pucca Mix
Primary School	30	0	0	0	0	15	4	8	3
Middle School	18	2	9	1	1.33	12	2	4	12
High/Higher Secondary (Boys)	1	21	4	4	7.57	15	1	2	12
High/Higher Secondary (Girls)	1	23	2	4	8.57	16	0	1	13
Religious School	8	17	2	3	6.90	15	2	8	5
Non Formal Education Centre	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0

The average enrolment of children on a sex-wise basis and in the different classes upto the primary level are provided in Table 2.8. On an average there are around 55-60 boys and girls per class.

Table 2.8: Class-wise average enrolment in primary schools

Class	Boys	Girls
Class I	32	34
Class II	28	28
Class III	27	28
Class IV	31	30
Class V	27	27
Average Enrolment per primary School	145	147

If we look at the condition of the schools and facilities available in them not only did all schools have their own building but 90 per cent schools also had a proper pucca building structure. Because the schools mainly had a pucca building the floors of classrooms and verandah were also cemented. However, only around one-third of the buildings were in a really good condition. In fact the condition of school building in 5 villages was quite bad. Although 60 per cent classes are being held in the classrooms but some classes are also being held in either the verandah or open space just outside the school building. The fact that 90 per cent schools had usable blackboards and 93 per cent had sufficient Tat-Patties for the students spoke well of the facilities in school. However, only around 77 per cent schools had playgrounds. The average number of teachers per primary school was found to be 3 (Table 2.9).

Table 2.9: Physical Structure of the Schools

Details	Number
<u>Schools with buildings</u>	
Yes	30 (100.00)
No	0 (0.00)
Total	30 (100.00)
<u>Type of Structure</u>	
1. Kutcha/thatch	1 (3.33)
2. Kutcha/tile	0 (0.00)
3. Semi pucca	2 (6.67)
4. Pucca	27 (90.00)
<u>Main Flooring Materials</u>	
1. Mud	1 (3.33)
2. Brick	1 (3.33)
3. Cement, stone, tile	28 (93.33)
4. Others	
<u>Condition of Building</u>	
1. Good	11 (36.67)
2. Satisfactory	14 (46.67)
3. Poor	5 (16.66)
4. Very bad	

Table 2.9 (contd...)

Details	Number
<u>Where classes normally held</u>	
1. in the class room	18 (60.00)
2. In the Verandah	6 (20.00)
3. Open space	6 (20.00)
<u>Does the school have useable blackboard</u>	
Yes	27 (90.00)
No	3 (10.00)
<u>Does the school have playground</u>	
Yes	23 (76.67)
No	7 (23.33)
<u>Seating facility provided to students</u>	
1. Tat-Patti	28 (93.33)
2. Desk	2 (6.66)
<u>Average No. of Teachers per primary school</u>	3

In our villages there were 28 privately run schools some of which were upto Class XII. The average number of children enrolled in a school worked out to around 103. The Headmaster of the primary school run by the government pointed out that only around 50 per cent parents were in favour of sending their children to the government school while around 20 per cent were in favour of their child being educated in a private school. The rest did not have a firm opinion in this connection (Table 2.10).

Table 2.10 : Private Schools and Preference of People for Schools

Number of schools within the village	28
Upto the class level	12 th
No. of students enrolled	2879 (Avg Per School 103)
Preference of the schools	
1. Government	15 (50.00)
2. Private	6 (20.00)
3. Both	9 (30.00)

4. Medical Services

In order to avail various health services people have to mainly visit the block headquarter. In fact even a sub-centre was found in only 7 out of the 30 villages surveyed by us. Fortunately the road connectivity is quite good and in a majority of cases the type of road, which people have to use to avail the different facilities are pucca (see Table 2.11).

Table 2.11: Details of Health Facilities by their location

Type of health Facility	Within Village	Within Block	Within Panchayat	Within District	Average Distance (Kms)	Pucca	Semi Pucca	Kutcha	Kutcha Pucca Mix
Sub-centre	7	17	5	1	4.1	17	3	2	8
PHC	3	27	0	0	8.5	19	2	0	9
CHC	0	27	0	3	11.7	20	1	0	9
Hospital/Dispensary	3	24	0	3	9.8	21	1	0	8
Private Qualified Allopathic Doctors	3	23	1	3	7.2	19	2	0	9
Child Care Centre	1	26	0	3	11	20	2	1	7
Family Planning Clinic	1	27	0	2	10.4	20	2	0	8
Chemist/Medicine Shop	7	17	2	4	4.5	14	5	0	11

Looking at the facilities available at the Sub-Centre and the PHC it was observed that they are not properly equipped to serve the public. In only 21 villages it was reported that the Sub-Centre had an ANM. Similarly the other facilities such as Medicine etc. were found lacking as can be observed in Table 2.12. The situation was better in the PHCs. In Uttar Pradesh the medical structure is 4-tier with the Sub-Centre being at the lowest rung and is followed by the PHC. The CHC is the next higher place for treatment and at the top is the district hospital. The entire system has been developed so that the villagers can get immediate relief at the Sub-Centre and for illness of more serious nature they may be referred to the higher category medical service. It is therefore essential that the sub-centres should be well equipped because it is an integral part of the health care structure of the State (Table 2.12).

Table 2.12: Facilities at the Sub-centre or PHC

Facilities	Sub Centres	PHC
ANM	21	26
Medicines	9	29
Doctor	4	29
Regular Checkup	2	18
Pathological Tests	1	7
X-Ray	0	3
Beds	1	23
Any Other	0	2

The frequency of visits of the Health Staff to these villages highlights the fact that the ANM and ASHA are regularly visiting the villages. Both play an important role in spreading awareness among the people regarding sanitation and hygiene and in providing health care within the village itself. As far as other medical staff is concerned most visit either on a monthly or quarterly basis (for details refer to Table 2.13).

Table 2.13: **Frequency of visit of Health Staff in the Village**

Type of staff	Frequency					
	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly	Half Yearly	Rarely	No Information
Medical Officer	1	9	2	8	4	6
Lady Health Visitor	0	12	1	7	2	8
ANM	18	10	2	1	0	0
Malaria Inspector	0	7	2	11	10	0
Health Educator	0	7	2	11	4	6
Vaccinator	0	17	8	4	1	0
ASHA	24	6	0	0	0	0

It was good to note that in a majority of cases the condition of the PHC building was good or satisfactory. Only in one PHC the building was in a poor condition. Equally important is that the availability of doctor in the PHC should be regular. Unfortunately only in less than half the PHCs are the doctors available regularly. Even more disturbing is that in only 3 PHCs are medicines available on a regular basis. The PHC is very important for the village community as it is supposed to be equipped with basic medical services such as doctor, medicines, provision for pathological tests and even beds for the patients. The National Rural Health Mission has been launched on such a large scale and one aspect towards which it should focus its attention is to strengthen both the Sub-Centre and the PHCs (Table 2.14).

Table 2.14: **Conditions of PHC/sub-centre in the village**

Buildings		
1. Good		19
2. Satisfactory		10
3. Poor		1
Doctor		
1. Available daily		13
2. Available sometimes		14
3. Available rarely		3
Medicines		
1. Available regularly		3
2. Occasional problems		13
3. Constant problems		14

Because the medical services of the State are not able to fully cater to the needs of the villagers they have to go to the private doctors. In as many as 22 of our 30 villages doctors are doing medical practice. Unfortunately only one of them is a properly trained allopathic while the rest are all local *Jhola Chap* doctors. In the wake of this fact it is even more essential that the NRHM should undertake the task of not only providing good quality medical services but also of spreading awareness among people and educate them so that even if they wish to visit a private clinic it should be of a properly qualified doctor.

As far as the Aanganwadi/ICDS Centres are concerned their condition is good. In 25 villages they were operating from proper government owned premises and condition of the building was good or satisfactory in 80 per cent cases. On an average around 45 mothers and 130 children had visited in the month prior to our visit for seeking assistance. The ICDS supervisors usually make monthly visits to the centre. In general there was satisfaction about the working of these centres (Table 2.15).

Table 2.15: Aanganwadi/ICDS Centre

Details	Number
<u>Place of House where located</u>	
1. Govt. Building	25
2. Private Building	5
<u>If Pvt. Building then whose house located</u>	
1. Mukhiya House	1
2. Sarpanch	0
3. Other PRI representative	1
4. Aanganwadi workers	3
5. Others	
<u>Condition of Buildings</u>	
1. Good	14
2. Satisfactory	10
3. Poor	5
4. Bad	1
<u>Number of Mothers and Children visited/benefited during the last one month</u>	
1. Mother	1347 (45)
2. Children	3918 (130)
<u>Does the ICDS supervisor visit the centre</u>	
1. Yes	27
2. No	3
<u>If yes the:</u>	
1. Weekly	5
2. Monthly	16
3. Quarterly	9

5. Details of Other Facilities

The details with respect to availability of facilities such as bus stop, railway station, post office, market centre, etc. have been highlighted with the help of Table 2.16. Except for fair price shops which were found located within the village in 22 of our villages, for most of the services the villagers have to visit their block headquarters (Table 2.16 provides the relevant details.

Table 2.16: Details of other facilities

Type of facility	Place of Availability			
	Within Village	Within Block	Within Panchayat	Within District
Block HQ	0	29	0	1
Nearest Town	0	20	0	10
Nearest Bus Stop	5	12	7	6
Nearest Regular Market	5	15	4	6
Nearest Rail Station	0	9		
Nearest Post Office	12	7	0	19
Commercial Bank	5	14		
Gram Panchayat Office	12	2	8	2
Fair Price Shop	27	3		
Other General Shops	15	6	8	3
Veterinary	0	26		
Govt. Procurement Centre	4	10	2	0
Panchayat Ghar	9	2		
Others	2	0	4	0

As far as the public distribution system (PDS) is concerned as many of 27 villages had a fair price shop within the village itself. Since some villages have a very high population there is more than one shop located in those villages. Therefore, a total of 36 shops were located in these 27 villages. Out of the total ration cards issued around 44 per cent are held by households below poverty line. In most cases the supply of ration, sugar and kerosene oil is quite regular (Table 2.17).

In 21 villages selected for survey Self Help Groups (SHGs) had been formed. However, in a few villages they were not active although on paper there are a total of 51 SHGs working in these villages. The SHGs which are active are engaged in various activities such as Dairying, animal husbandry, poultry, tailoring and rice milling.

Table 2.17: Public Distribution System

PDS in the Village	
1. Yes	27
2. No	3
If yes, the how many shops in the village	36
If no, then distance	5 KM
% of card holders by type of ration card	
1. Antodya	16.00
2. BPL	28.00
3. APL	56.00
Is supply regular	
Foodgrains	
1. Yes	20
2. No.	10
Sugar	
1. Yes	19
2. No	11
Kerosene oil	3

6. Non-Agricultural Activities Found in the Villages

Among the non-agricultural activities which were found in the selected villages dairying was the most popular and was being undertaken in as many as 23 villages and involved around 450 households. The other activities include fisheries, gur manufacturing, rice milling, tailoring and flourmill. However, the number of households presently engaged in them is limited. But there are definite indicators as to the type of activities which may be promoted by the DIC or the District Rural Development Office. The PMRY scheme could be utilized to promote these activities by identifying and training potential entrepreneurs. They can then be trained and provided loans under the PMRY so that they may become self-employed.

Among the artisan and handicrafts, which are found in a few villages, include chikan embroidery, dari weaving, rope and basket manufacturing, blacksmithy and carpentry. Here also the number of villages and households involved in the craft are limited except for rope and basket manufacturing which was found in 7 villages. These activities also need to be promoted because they are a suitable means of supplementing the low income of the rural households.

The type of problems which people are faced with in conducting their business are availability of easy finance from the financial institutions, marketing of the finished products, availability of raw material and lack of provision of skill formation through proper training. In the absence of proper marketing, bulk of the produce is sold in the local market or nearby urban centre (for all details, please refer to Table 2.18).

Table 2.18: Non-Agricultural Activities found in villages

Activity	No. of Village	Total households involved
Dairying	23	451
Fisheries	4	92
Rice Milling	2	2
Gur Manufacturing	6	11
Tailoring	1	8
Flour Mill	1	1
Poultry	1	4
Handcraft Activity		
Chikan Embroidery	3	21
Carpentry	3	17
Dari Weaving	3	25
Rope/Basket Making	7	200
Poultry	1	4
Blacksmith	4	28
Tazia Making	1	26

Note: Problems Highlighted- availability of finance, marketing, raw material availability, training

Sale- Mostly in the local market and nearby towns

7. Development Programmes being Conducted in the Villages

The government programmes have been analyzed in two ways. In the first place we have tried to find out the average number of beneficiaries who benefited under them according to the category of people. The average number of beneficiaries who have benefited under the different programmes are highlighted in Table 2.19. On the whole it was found that maximum number of beneficiaries on a per village basis were found under NREGA scheme. Approximately 102 individuals received employment from each village of these around one-fourth were from the Minority Community. Nearly 13 persons benefited from each village under IAY. Around two of them were Minorities. The other schemes taken together provided benefits to around 70 individuals per village and 13 of these were from the Minority group. Similarly there are two types of pension schemes in operation. The first is old age pension while the second is the widow pension scheme. In our selected villages it was found that on an average 27 persons were receiving old age pension while widow pension was being availed by around 17 widows. The number of Minorities who figured in the list were around 7 and 5 in the case of old age and widow pension schemes respectively (please see Table 2.19).

Table 2.19: Individual Beneficiary Oriented Programmes

Programme	Average No. of Beneficiaries per village			
	Total	SC	Minority	Others
SGSY	5.50	2.50	0.53	2.47
NREGA	102.20	55.13	22.23	24.83
IAY	12.93	6.77	1.70	4.47
Others	70.30	46.63	13.13	10.53
Pension Scheme				
Old age pension scheme	27.10	11.00	6.67	9.43
Widow pension scheme	16.83	6.03	5.40	5.40

We also tried to find out details regarding the development plans which were undertaken during 2006-07 in terms of the different programmes, activities undertaken by them, total beneficiaries and the funds which were allocated for each programmes. All the relevant details are given in Table 2.20.

Table 2.20: Details of Development Programmes (2006-07)

Name of Programme	Villages Covered	Activities undertaken	Total No. of beneficiaries	Allocation of funds (Rs Lakhs)
NREGA	30	1. Road Construction 2. Kharanja 3. Drainage work 4. Digging of ponds 5. Land development 6. Plantation work	3076	76.33 (2.54)
IAY	14	1. Construction of Houses	340	85.75 (6.12)
Gram Nidhi	24	1. Road Construction 2. Kharanja 3. Drainage Work 4. Handpump 5. Toilet in Schools 6. Land Leveling	2040	42.13 (1.75)
SGSY	1	1. Piggery Development 2. Formation of SHG's	10	2.5
Schemes under Twelfth Finance Commission	2	1. Kharanja 2. Drainage Work	69	2.12 (1.06)

NB: Figure in parenthesis indicate average allocation per village

(a) **NREGA:** In the case of NREGA all the villages had this scheme in operation and the type of activities undertaken were construction of roads, plantation, digging of ponds, drainage work and land development. On an average Rs.2.54 lakh were allocated under the scheme per village.

(b) **I.A.Y.:** Only 14 villages were covered under the scheme and total beneficiaries to benefit were 340. The average amount allocated under IAY per village worked out to Rs.6.12 lakh.

(c) **Gram Nidhi Scheme:** The scheme was implemented in 24 villages and the activities undertaken involved construction of roads and kharanja, installation of hand pumps, land leveling and construction of toilets in schools. Total number of beneficiaries were 2040 and per village average allocation was Rs.1.75 lakh.

(d) **Schemes Under the Twelfth Finance Commission:** Undertaken in two villages the main activities it undertook were construction of kharanja and drainage work. The total beneficiaries to avail its benefit were 69 and average amount sanctioned worked out to Rs.1.06 lakh.

8. Village Level Organizations

Although on paper there are a number of village level organizations but a majority of them are actually non-functional. Table 2.21 highlights the fact that only two societies, which are functioning effectively, are the Cooperative Credit and agricultural inputs societies. Both of them also have sizeable number of members as well. In all the other cases over 80-100 per cent are non-functional.

Table 2.21: Village Organization

Organization	Functional	Non-Functional	Average number of members
1. Cooperatives			
i. Credit	25	6	110
ii. Agricultural Inputs	19	14	75
iii. Production of Khadi	1	46	1
iv. Marketing	1	48	4
v. Dairy Coop	5	40	3
vi. Others	3	80	5
2. Workers organizations/unions	0	44	0
3. Farmers organisation	0	48	0
4. Voluntary Organizations	4	42	6
5. Religious/Caste organizations	4	40	6
6. Political Organizations	1	46	1
7. Cultural Organizations	2	44	1
8. Youth Mandal	4	40	2
9. Women Mandal	1	42	1
10. Flood Relief Village Security Force	0	42	0
11. Others	1	16	2

Some of these organizations can play an effective role in the functioning of the village economy and, therefore, it would be nice if they can be revived and suitably revamped to make them active.

9. Main Problems in the Villages as Perceived by the Pradhans and Other Persons

A discussion with the different Village Pradhans and other influential persons in the villages was carried out to obtain their perceptions regarding the problems faced by these villages and areas of concern. Despite the fact that 30 villages covering as many as 5 Tehsils were visited by us the central problem are by and large common all over these villages.

- (a) In all villages without any exception the people have demanded that the road network should be developed properly. Even if it is not possible to have a pucca road all over the village, at least kharanjas should be laid to replace the Kutcha roads which are a great nuisance particularly during the monsoons. Moreover, every village should have a proper link road.
- (b) The irregular power supply is yet another aspect which the Pradhans have pointed out. This is one of the reasons why people are reluctant to take electrical connections whether it is for domestic, agricultural or commercial purposes. The average daily power supply of 5.2 hours is insufficient to meet the requirements of the people. The problem becomes even more acute considering the fact that most of the times power supply is not available at the time when it is needed the most.
- (c) The ill equipped sub-centres and also the PHCs to some extent cause problems for the village community in fulfilling their needs related to medical care. Even the private practitioners in the villages are '*Jhola Chap*' doctors. On the whole, therefore, the community is of the opinion that better medical services should be provided to them by the government.
- (d) Only very few villages had bank branches. Bank branches will not only prove useful in making credit available to them on easy terms but they could also prove beneficial in inculcating the habit of thrift among the people. It is, therefore, desirable that every village should have at least one bank branch. The lead bank which in the case of Kheri is the Punjab National Bank should ensure that this request of the villagers be acceded to at the earliest. Moreover, in many cases banks are reluctant to extend credit facilities to the people. This forces them to borrow money at extremely high rates of interest from, non-institutional sources.

- (e) With the quality of water being poor the villagers are faced with the problem that good quality potable water is not easily available. Even those who have their own hand pump or Tubewell do not have sufficient resources to afford deep boring to the level at which potable water becomes available. This is, therefore, resulting in various stomach ailments. The general opinion is that the government can play an active role in providing a suitable subsidy for carrying out deep boring.
- (f) While the facilities of education upto the Upper Primary level are usually available within the village itself or in close proximity of the villages, the students have problem when it comes to higher education. Moreover, institutes offering technical education such as ITIs, and Polytechnics are not found located close to these villages. It is hoped that at least, the Minority Community will be able to avail the advantage of the latest Central Government Scheme under which non-refundable fees upto Rs.20,000 per year will be subsidized by the government. Besides this the government will also bear the hostel expenses of the students upto a maximum of Rs.10,000 per annum.
- (g) One of the major concerns of the district is the problem of water logging. This hampers agricultural operations and although the average yields of wheat, paddy and sugarcane are above the state average these averages could be even higher if problems of flooding as well as water logging are controlled. The proposed bunding along Sharda and Ghaghra rivers could be a very effective step in this direction.
- (h) As is well known Kheri grows sugarcane which is the main cash-crop of the district. There are 9 large sugar mills which purchase the sugarcane. However, the cane growers face the problem of non-timely payment of the price of sugarcane purchased by these mills. They, therefore, want the government to intervene in this matter to ensure that payments are received by them on a timely basis.
- (i) A few Pradhans also informed that their crops get destroyed not merely by flood but also as a result of the menace caused by the '*Neel Gai*'. This is a major concern in a large number of districts along with Kheri. It is not that the government is unaware of these problems but as of today no suitable means have been devised to tackle this problem. However, some solution has to be thought of because it will help to improve the levels of production. It will also ensure higher income levels to the cultivators.
- (j) It was also pointed out that the veterinary services being provided too need to be strengthened keeping in mind that many families are engaged in the dairy business while some are keeping goats or poultry.

10. Some Areas which have the Potential for Development

- (a) Dairy activity is quite popular but its potential has not been properly developed. It has been indicated earlier that the condition of the Dugdha Sangh needs to be improved. It, therefore, needs to be revamped. Besides carrying out the revamping exercise it is equally important to introduce new milk routes, form active milk producers cooperatives and increase the storage as well as chilling capacity from the current level. It would be equally important to distribute good quality milch animals and ensure that veterinary services are adequately developed to cater to the needs of the animal husbandry sector. At the same time it would be ideal if some units manufacturing milk products are also set up in the area as it would provide an assured market to those connected with the dairy activity.
- (b) Since sugarcane is the chief cash-crop of the district with yield rates marginally above the State average, the sugar industry automatically got attracted and there are as many as 9 large sugar mills presently in the district. However, there is surplus sugarcane available despite the demands of the sugar industry. Consequently at the village level there are a number of households engaged in the manufacture of gur. Gur is a product which has a ready market all over and so it may be appropriate if some more gur and Khandsari units are promoted.
- (c) The development of fisheries seems to be a commercial activity which has sufficient potential in a large number of villages. The fisheries department can play the role of a catalyst in this direction by supplying fingerlings, fish feed and digging up ponds where required. At the same time if a proper fish *mandi* is set up it will facilitate those engaged in this sector in the marketing of their produce.
- (d) Sericulture is yet another area which has potential in some of the areas. The sericulture department is working in this direction by encouraging mulberry cultivation and breeding silk worms. The department can promote the activity by providing training to the potential entrepreneurs. The advantage of this activity is that neither does it involve high investment nor does it need large areas for breeding silk worms but is a source of regular income to the households.
- (e) In the villages covered by us there is a heavy dependence on agriculture. However, the cultivators are mainly growing the traditional crops. Their incomes from agriculture are not substantial as a large number have small size of land holdings. It would, therefore, be appropriate if the agriculture department can raise awareness

levels among cultivators to diversify and go for cash crops such as vegetable in particular. They can be educated about the vegetable, which can be grown easily to enhance their levels of income.

The activities mentioned above are all related to agriculture and animal husbandry sector. But this does not mean that the potential of these villages is restricted to these activities alone. Some of the manufacturing activities which have a potential are being listed below:

- (i) Rope and basket manufacturing;
- (ii) Dari manufacturing;
- (iii) Chikan Embroidery;
- (iv) Furniture manufacturing;
- (v) Pickle, spices, papad manufacturing; and,
- (vi) Manufacture of candles, incense sticks, etc.

The District Industries Centre can play a very significant contribution in developing these manufacturing activities by conducting training programmes on a regular basis for identification of potential entrepreneurs. Once they have been identified they can be provided the necessary financial and technical support so that the activity can be sustained over a long period. The DIC can encourage development of clusters for different activities around villages where households are engaged in these activities. Some of these activities can also be supported by the KVIC as well. In fact activities such as pickle, spice and papad manufacture as well as manufacture of candles and incense sticks can also be handled quite efficiently by identifying suitable NGOs who can develop the Self-Help Groups particularly of females and assist them in developing these activities.

However, to assure the success of these activities it will be also equally essential to develop the road network, ensure access to credit facilities and marketing network.

CHAPTER III

ANALYSIS OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITION OF HOUSEHOLDS ON A RELIGION-WISE BASIS

1. Demographic Features

The field survey conducted in the 30 selected villages of Kheri covered 30 households per village so our total sample was 900 households. In this chapter we will analyse the socio-economic condition of our selected households. The sample, as already explained earlier, was drawn with the specific intention of covering different religious categories in proportion to their share in total population of the village. Thus, out of the 900 households covered by us around two-thirds were Hindus and around 30 per cent were Muslims. The remaining were households belonging to the Sikh community (around 4.8 per cent). The details are provided in Table 3.1. A caste-wise break-up of the households revealed that around 44 per cent belonged to the upper caste group. The SC and OBC categories had a share of around 27 and 28 per cent respectively (Table 3.2). The majority of our households, being in the main Hindi-speaking belt, were primarily those whose mother tongue was Hindi (79 per cent). Despite the fact that the composition of Muslim households in our total sample was around 30 per cent only 16 per cent families have given Urdu as their mother tongue (Table 3.3).

Table 3.1: Distribution of household by religion

Religion	Number of Households	Percentages
Hindu	590	65.56
Muslim	267	29.67
Sikh	43	4.78
All Religions	900	100.00

Table 3.2: Distribution of Households by caste

Caste	Number of Households	Percentages
SC	245	27.22
ST	7	0.78
OBC	255	28.33
Upper Castes	393	43.67
Total	900	100.00

Table 3.3: **Distribution of household by Mother Tongue and other known languages**

Language	Mother Tongue	%	Second Known Lang.	%
Hindi	711	79.00	439	48.78
Urdu	147	16.33	7	0.78
Punjabi	42	4.67	0	0.00
No Response	0	0.00	454	50.44
Total	900	100.00	900	100.00

If we look at the distribution of households by size of the family the overall household size worked out to be just short of 7 on the whole. The average size of the households was quite similar between Hindus and Muslims but the Sikhs had a relatively lower size (5.5 persons per household) (see Table 3.4).

Table 3.4: **Distribution of Households by size of Family**

Religion	Below 3	3 to 5	5 to 7	7 to 9	9 and above	Total	Avg HH Size
Hindu	40	140	189	123	98	590	7.06
Muslim	24	54	89	67	33	267	6.91
Sikh	5	19	14	2	3	43	5.55
Total	69	213	292	192	134	900	6.95

The age-wise composition reveals that the highest proportion was concentrated in the age group of below 15 years (44 per cent) and was followed by those whose ages ranged between 15-30 years (27 per cent). What was noticeable was that there was hardly any significant difference between Hindu and Muslim households. Among the Sikh households, however, a relatively higher proportion of the population was found in the higher age groups. The total distribution of population is indicated in Table 3.5.

Table 3.5: **Composition of Family Members by age groups**

Religion	Below 15	15-30	30-45	45-60	60 and above	Total	Avg Age
Hindu	1824	1108	658	379	201	4170	24
Muslim	861	498	237	174	77	1847	23
Sikh	75	79	42	29	14	239	26
Total	2760	1685	937	582	292	6256	24

A look at the educational qualification of the family members highlights the fact that around one-third of them were illiterates. The level of illiteracy was highest among Muslims and lowest among the Sikhs. Around one-fourth of the total had studied upto the Primary level and there was not much difference between the different religious groups. Only a

negligible proportion had received education beyond the High School level (below 5 per cent). In fact, among the Muslims this percentage was barely 1.8 per cent. These figures clearly highlight the fact that overall educational levels are quite low and the Muslims particularly are lagging behind the other religious groups in terms of education (for details please see Table 3.6).

Table 3.6: **Educational Characteristics of family members**

Level of Education	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Grand Total	%
Illiterate	1301	31.20	719	38.93	53	22.18	2073	33.14
Below Primary	163	3.91	154	8.34	13	5.44	330	5.27
Primary	1155	27.70	466	25.23	57	23.85	1678	26.82
Upper Primary	529	12.69	131	7.09	41	17.15	701	11.21
High School	283	6.79	54	2.92	26	10.88	363	5.80
Intermediate	101	2.42	18	0.97	16	6.69	135	2.16
Technical Diploma	5	0.12	4	0.22		0.00	9	0.14
Technical professional degree	4	0.10	2	0.11		0.00	6	0.10
Graduate degree	55	1.32	6	0.32	2	0.84	63	1.01
Post graduate	18	0.43	4	0.22		0.00	22	0.35
Child	556	13.33	289	15.65	31	12.97	876	14.00
Total	4170	100.00	1847	100.00	239	100.00	6256	100.00

If we concentrate on the children in the age group 5-15 years it is observed that out of the total children in this category around 10 per cent had not been enrolled mainly because their parents were of the opinion that they were too young to be admitted to school. However, around 6 per cent were those who had dropped out of the school by the time our household survey was conducted. Thus around 81 per cent were enrolled and were attending school regularly. The proportion going to schools being run by the Basic Shiksha Parishad was 84 per cent while around 10 per cent were enrolled in private school. Only around 18 per cent of the total Muslim children in the school going age group were found enrolled in Madarsas. This could be an indicator towards the fact that the Muslims also want their children to study in schools, which educates them in all subjects. The impact of SSA was evident by the fact that around three-fourths children were attending school located within one kilometre from their village. As could be expected an overwhelming percentage (87 per cent) were Hindi medium students. The reasons, which have been cited for children dropping out, are mainly their inability to afford the cost of education. There was not much difference between the different religious groups (for details please see Table 3.6A).

Table 3.6 (A): Education Status of Children 5 to 15 years

	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Total Children	1240	574	40	1854
Non School going children	91	97	1	189
Total Children Enrolled	1149	477	39	1665
Details of School Going Children				
Left after enrolment	74	36	1	111
Enrolled but irregular	32	25	1	58
Enrolled and regular	1043	416	37	1496
Total	1149	477	39	1665
Characteristics of enrolled children				
Class I	192	87	15	294
Class II	171	93	5	269
Class III	191	85	6	282
Class IV	152	59	2	213
Class V	213	66	3	282
Class VI	101	51	2	154
Class VII	68	23	2	93
Class VIII	61	13	4	78
Total	1149	477	39	1665
Type of School				
Govt	1020	361	19	1400
Private	120	24	20	164
Madarsa	2	84	0	86
Missionary	5	0	0	5
Non formal	1	7	0	8
Others	1	1	0	2
Total	1149	477	39	1665
Distance of School				
Within 1 Km	837	414	10	1261
1-2 Kms	185	37	9	231
2-4 kms	66	10		76
4 and above	61	16	20	97
Total	1149	477	39	1665
Medium of Instruction				
Hindi	1053	371	31	1455
English	18	13	5	36
Hindi English Both	78	11	3	92
Urdu		82		82
Total	1149	477	39	1665
Reason for Dropout				
Work at home	10	7	0	17
Need to earn	6	8	0	14
Far distance of School	11	1	1	13
Failed in Examination	2	0	0	2
Fees/Expenditure not afford	34	13	0	47
Not interested in reading	11	7	0	18
Total	74	36	1	111
Availing Govt Assistance				
Yes	701	232	16	949
No	448	245	23	716
Total	1149	477	39	1665

2. Work Status

The figures related to status of work shows that around 28 per cent persons in the total population are employed. The figures between Hindus and Muslims are almost identical. However, among the Sikh it is slightly higher as around one-third are employed (Table 3.7).

Table 3.7: Working Status of Family Members

Working Status	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikhs	%	Total	%
Employed	1194	28.63	517	28.00	79	33.05	1790	28.61
Unemployed	22	0.53	18	0.97	1	0.42	41	0.66
Domestic Work	930	22.30	410	22.20	67	28.03	1407	22.49
Students	1224	29.35	481	26.04	51	21.34	1756	28.07
Retired/pensioners	12	0.29	3	0.16	1	0.42	16	0.25
Old/child	758	18.18	396	21.44	39	16.32	1193	19.07
Others	30	0.72	22	1.19	1	0.42	53	0.85
Total	4170	100.00	1847	100.00	239	100.00	6256	100.00

A further break-up of the employed persons has revealed that on the whole around 55 per cent are concentrated in the self-employed category. These are mainly cultivators. However, if we look at different religious groups separately wide variations are observed. Only around 46 per cent Muslims are found in this category while in the case of Sikh households this share is as high as 82 per cent. The second important group of workers are those engaged in non-agricultural activities. A majority of these are actually non-agricultural wage earners. Among the Muslims this category accounts for almost one-third of the total workers. Among Hindus only around 20 per cent are found in this category. Around 12-13 per cent are agricultural labourers and the share of Hindus and Muslims agricultural workers is similar. Thus the other categories have only a negligible proportion of workers (Table 3.8).

Table 3.8: Employment/Occupational Characteristics of working family members

Nature of Work	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikhs	%	Total	%
Self employed	682	57.12	237	45.84	65	82.28	984	54.97
Regular Salaried (Govt)	22	1.84	3	0.58	0	0.00	25	1.40
Regular Salaried (Pvt.)	35	2.93	15	2.90	5	6.33	55	3.07
Non Agri. worker	241	20.18	163	31.53	0	0.00	404	22.57
Agricultural Worker	158	13.23	64	12.38	5	6.33	227	12.68
Other activities	56	4.69	35	6.77	4	5.06	95	5.31
Total	1194	100.00	517	100.00	79	100.00	1790	100.00

If we look at employment according to industrial classification, over 57 per cent of the total workers are cultivators and another 7 per cent engaged in animal husbandry sector. As a result around two-thirds are concentrated in these two categories alone. However, the picture across different religious categories presents a varying picture because only around half the Muslim households are found in these two groups whereas among the Sikhs this share is as high as 94 per cent. In fact, the only other category in which the Sikhs are found is the transport industry. Among both Hindus and Muslims the second most important category is construction worker. This is quite understandable because construction is an activity which provides ample opportunities of employment (for details please refer to Table 3.9).

Table 3.9: Employment by industrial category

Category	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Agriculture	748	62.65	221	42.75	62	78.48	1031	57.60
Livestock	79	6.62	37	7.16	12	15.19	128	7.15
Fisheries	2	0.17	1	0.19	0	0.00	3	0.17
Forestry	3	0.25	1	0.19	0	0.00	4	0.22
Manufacturing	16	1.34	36	6.96	0	0.00	52	2.91
Construction	228	19.10	137	26.50	0	0.00	365	20.39
Trade and Commerce	27	2.26	31	6.00	0	0.00	58	3.24
Transport	6	0.50	5	0.97	5	6.33	16	0.89
Fin & admin services	3	0.25	1	0.19	0	0.00	4	0.22
Education health services	50	4.19	21	4.06	0	0.00	71	3.97
Others	32	2.68	26	5.03	0	0.00	58	3.24
Grand Total	1194	100.00	517	100.00	79	100.00	1790	100.00

One of the enquiries made from the respondents was whether they or their household members were on the look-out for additional employment opportunities. Among both Hindu and Muslim households above 90 per cent expressed their keenness to take up additional work. In the case of the Sikhs the corresponding percentage was only around 70 per cent (Table 3.10).

We had also asked them to indicate their preference regarding the activity in which they would like to take up additional employment. Among all religious groups the activity, which received first preference, was dairy activity. Regarding the second preference there were variations. The Hindu households indicated industrial activity with around 21 per cent response while the Muslims and Sikhs were more interested in doing some business (please see Table 3.10).

Table 3.10: Preferences of households for additional employment

	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Searching employment	537	91.02	245	91.76	30	69.77	812	90.22
Not searching	53	8.98	22	8.24	13	30.23	88	9.78
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
First Preferred Activity								
Dairy	210	39.11	73	29.80	16	53.33	299	36.82
Services	31	5.77	10	4.08	2	6.67	43	5.30
Others	11	2.05	7	2.86	2	6.67	20	2.46
Poultry	13	2.42	27	11.02	0	0.00	40	4.93
Piggery	6	1.12	0	0.00	0	0.00	6	0.74
Sheep/Goat	23	4.28	23	9.39	0	0.00	46	5.67
Fishery	15	2.79	4	1.63	0	0.00	19	2.34
Ag. Labour	17	3.17	3	1.22	0	0.00	20	2.46
Non Ag Labour	14	2.61	8	3.27	0	0.00	22	2.71
Industry	112	20.86	28	11.43	4	13.33	144	17.73
Business	85	15.83	62	25.31	6	20.00	153	18.84
Total	537	100.00	245	100.00	30	100.00	812	100.00
Second Preferred Activity								
Dairy	73	13.59	38	15.51	2	6.67	113	13.92
Services	23	4.28	12	4.90	3	10.00	38	4.68
Others	2	0.37	0	0.00	2	6.67	4	0.49
Poultry	4	0.74	37	15.10	1	3.33	42	5.17
Piggery	3	0.56	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	0.37
Sheep/Goat	56	10.43	51	20.82	0	0.00	107	13.18
Fishery	13	2.42	13	5.31	0	0.00	26	3.20
Ag. Labour	19	3.54	6	2.45	4	13.33	29	3.57
Non Ag Labour	45	8.38	11	4.49	1	3.33	57	7.02
Industry	90	16.76	27	11.02	8	26.67	125	15.39
Business	209	38.92	50	20.41	9	30.00	268	33.00
Total	537	100.00	245	100.00	30	100.00	812	100.00
Third Preferred Activity								
Dairy	113	21.04	47	19.18	9	30.00	169	20.81
Services	71	13.22	14	5.71	4	13.33	89	10.96
Others	12	2.23	11	4.49	0	0.00	23	2.83
Poultry	8	1.49	24	9.80	0	0.00	32	3.94
Piggery	5	0.93	0	0.00	0	0.00	5	0.62
Sheep/Goat	20	3.72	28	11.43	1	3.33	49	6.03
Fishery	19	3.54	8	3.27	0	0.00	27	3.33
Ag. Labour	20	3.72	5	2.04	1	3.33	26	3.20
Non Ag Labour	53	9.87	11	4.49	0	0.00	64	7.88
Industry	60	11.17	28	11.43	4	13.33	92	11.33
Business	156	29.05	69	28.16	11	36.67	236	29.06
Total	537	100.00	245	100.00	30	100.00	812	100.00

3. Land Holdings

If we look at the distribution of households according to the size of land holdings the best placed were the Sikhs with an average land holding size of around 7 acres. As

compared to this the Hindus had just around two acres each whereas among the Muslims the average land holding size was found to be the lowest with 1.12 acres per household. In fact as many as 33 per cent of the Muslim households were landless and another 39 per cent owned less than 1 acre of land. The distribution of different land holding sizes is provided in Table 3.11.

Table 3.11: Distribution of households by size of land holding

Size of Land Holding	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Landless	75	88	2	165
Below 1.0	243	105	0	348
1.00 to 2.50	116	47	7	170
2.50 to 5.00	105	16	15	136
5.00 to 7.50	23	6	5	34
7.50 to 10.00	19	4	6	29
10 and above	9	1	8	18
Total	590	267	43	900
Avg land per household (Acres)	2.05	1.12	6.92	2.02

Since it is the Sikh community who own bigger land holdings it is quite natural that the average value of their land is also the highest. This worked out to Rs.10.92 lakh per household on an average. In the case of Hindus and Muslims the corresponding figures were much lower at Rs.3.15 and Rs.1.78 lakhs respectively (see Table 3.12).

Table 3.12: Distribution of Households by value of land

Value of Own Land (Rs 000)	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Below 25	30	30	2	62
25-50	50	21	0	71
50-100	104	45	2	151
100-200	117	44	5	166
200-250	26	13	1	40
Above 250	188	26	31	245
Total	515	179	41	735
Avg per HHs (Rs)	314927	177716	1091767	312721

4. Ownership of Livestock

Tables 3.13 and 3.14 describe the livestock and their value owned by our households from different categories. Although dairy is an important activity of the district our sample has covered those households who did not possess enough milch animals. In fact around 21.5 per cent households are such that they did not own any type of animal whatsoever. In our entire sample we found only 651 milch animals, 219 draught animals and 418 young

cattle. The only other animals of some significance are goats. The average value of livestock owned by all households taken together was around Rs.10 thousand. The Hindus were close to this average (around Rs.11 thousand) but wide variations were found in the other two groups. While the average was rather low (around Rs.6000) in Muslim households, it was almost Rs.25 thousand in the case of Sikh households.

Table 3.13: Distribution of Livestock

Type of live stock	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Milch Animal	502	71	78	651
Draught Animal	172	43	4	219
Young Cattle	315	75	28	418
Goats	132	126	5	263
Sheep	5	7	0	12
Poultry	10	20	1	31
Pigs	5	0	0	5
Others	3	4	0	7
Grand Total	1144	346	116	1606

Table 3.14: Distribution of households by value of livestock

Value of Livestock (Rs.)	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
No Livestock	117	19.83	73	27.34	3	6.98	193	21.44
Below 1500	48	8.14	44	16.48	1	2.33	93	10.33
1500 - 30000	373	63.22	144	53.93	24	55.81	541	60.11
30000 - 45000	42	7.12	5	1.87	9	20.93	56	6.22
45000 - 60000	5	0.85	0	0.00	3	6.98	8	0.89
60000 - 75000	1	0.17	0	0.00	1	2.33	2	0.22
75000 and above	4	0.68	1	0.37	2	4.65	7	0.78
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Average per HH	11039		5983		24944		10203	

5. Ownership of Assets

If we look at the different types of assets owned by the households surveyed by us wide variations are observed among the three religious groups. The Sikhs are way ahead of the others with average assets amounting to around Rs.75 thousand. The value is less than half in the case of Hindus as compared to the Sikh households but in Muslim households the average value of asset is only around one-fourth (around Rs.20 thousand) that in possession of the Sikh households. Five broad categories of assets were taken in consideration. These included agricultural implements, non-agricultural implements, means of transport, semi-

durable household appliances and financial assets. The figures obtained for different religious groups clearly bring out the fact that Muslims are well behind the others. For details please see Tables 3.15 and 3.16.

Table 3.15: Distribution of Households by value of productive and other Assets

Value (Rs 000)	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Below 25	340	57.63	179	67.04	15	34.88	534	59.33
25 - 50	101	17.12	51	19.10	4	9.30	156	17.33
50 - 75	41	6.95	15	5.62	3	6.98	59	6.56
75 - 100	28	4.75	7	2.62	3	6.98	38	4.22
100 and above	80	13.56	15	5.62	18	41.86	113	12.56
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Average per HH	31407		19767		75333		30052	

Table 3.16: Average Value of various asset owned by different religious categories

Value of Asset	Avg per Household (Rs.)			
	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Agricultural implements	14691	6802	46885	13889
Transport	3260	3509	9064	3611
Non-agricultural implements	735	241	753	589
Household Asset	2744	1900	5566	2628
Financial Assets	9978	7315	13065	9335
Grand Total	31407	19767	75333	30052

6. Housing Conditions and Amenities

Housing conditions reflect the economic condition of individuals. In the case of our sample we found that all the households either had their own ancestral house or a house provided under the Indira Awas Programme. However, only around 36 per cent houses of Hindus were pucca houses as compared to nearly 63 per cent in the case of the Sikh families. The Muslims were the most disadvantaged because in their case only around 19 per cent were living in pucca houses. Majority of the households were living in one or two room houses. They accounted for around 75 per cent Hindus, 79 per cent Muslims and around 69 per cent Sikhs. The plight of these households should be seen in the light of the fact that the average household size is around 7. Only around 10 per cent houses of Hindu and Muslim families were electrified. However, in the case of the Sikh families around 58 per cent had an electrical connection. For the households sans electricity, oil lamp was the chief source of light. With respect to source of drinking water, the dependence on own hand pump or Tubewell was the highest. It covered over two-thirds Hindus and nearly three-fourths

Table 3.17: Distribution of Households by housing status

	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Housing Status								
Own	476	80.68	242	90.64	43	100.00	761	84.56
Indira Awas/Govt Provided	114	19.32	25	9.36	0	0.00	139	15.44
Rented	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Grand Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Type of House								
Thatched	186	31.53	132	49.44	6	13.95	324	36.00
Kutchra Khaprail	51	8.64	18	6.74	1	2.33	70	7.78
Semi Pucca	135	22.88	66	24.72	9	20.93	210	23.33
Pucca	214	36.27	51	19.10	27	62.79	292	32.44
Others	4	0.68	0	0.00	0	0.00	4	0.44
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Number of Rooms								
No Room	28	4.75	26	9.74	0	0.00	54	6.00
One	239	40.51	97	36.33	15	34.88	351	39.00
Two	175	29.66	87	32.58	15	34.88	277	30.78
Three	64	10.85	30	11.24	5	11.63	99	11.00
Four	46	7.80	14	5.24	5	11.63	65	7.22
Five	16	2.71	5	1.87	2	4.65	23	2.56
Six	15	2.54	7	2.62	0	0.00	22	2.44
Seven	1	0.17	0	0.00	1	2.33	2	0.22
Nine	2	0.34	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	0.22
Ten	4	0.68	1	0.37	0	0.00	5	0.56
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Details of Homestead land								
Own	563	95.42	256	95.88	43	100.00	862	95.78
Provided by Govt/Panchayat	22	3.73	6	2.25	0	0.00	28	3.11
Landlord's Land	3	0.51	5	1.87	0	0.00	8	0.89
Others	2	0.34	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	0.22
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Electrification								
Yes	61	10.34	26	9.74	25	58.14	112	12.44
No	529	89.66	241	90.26	18	41.86	788	87.56
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Source of Light								
Oil Lamp	454	85.82	209	86.72	14	77.78	677	85.91
Lantern	70	13.23	28	11.62	3	16.67	101	12.82
Petromax	3	0.57	1	0.41	1	5.56	5	0.63
Others	2	0.38	3	1.24	0	0.00	5	0.63
Total	529	100.00	241	100.00	18	100.00	788	100.00
Source of Drinking Water								
Own handpump/tubewell	394	66.78	195	73.03	41	95.35	630	70.00
Public handpump/Tubewell	151	25.59	54	20.22	2	4.65	207	23.00
Tap in dwelling	16	2.71	11	4.12	0	0.00	27	3.00
Own protected dug well	7	1.19	0	0.00	0	0.00	7	0.78
Unprotected dug well	4	0.68	1	0.37	0	0.00	5	0.56
Public unprotected dug well	11	1.86	2	0.75	0	0.00	13	1.44
Public protected dug well	6	1.02	3	1.12	0	0.00	9	1.00
Public tap	0	0.00	1	0.37	0	0.00	1	0.11
Pond/River/Stream	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Others	1	0.17	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0.11
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00

Table 3.17 (contd...)

	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Distance of Source of Drinking Water								
With in House	385	65.25	201	75.28	34	79.07	620	68.89
Upto 100 meters	192	32.54	59	22.10	9	20.93	260	28.89
100 - 250 meters	10	1.69	7	2.62	0	0.00	17	1.89
250 & above meters	3	0.51	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	0.33
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Toilet Facility								
In House	57	9.66	43	16.10	12	27.91	112	12.44
Outside House	533	90.34	224	83.90	31	72.09	788	87.56
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Type of Toilet Facility								
Septic Tank Latrine	4	0.68	2	0.75	1	2.33	7	0.78
In the Dwelling water sealed	11	1.86	11	4.12	6	13.95	28	3.11
Pit Latrine	44	7.46	31	11.61	6	13.95	81	9.00
Covered Dry Latrine	0	0.00	1	0.37	0	0.00	1	0.11
In the community: water sealed	1	0.17	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0.11
In the field	530	89.83	222	83.15	30	69.77	782	86.89
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Source of Fuel								
Wood	359	60.85	124	46.44	32	74.42	515	57.22
Coal	2	0.34	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	0.22
Kerosene Oil	0	0.00	1	0.37	0	0.00	1	0.11
Hay/Leaves	118	20.00	98	36.70	2	4.65	218	24.22
Cow Dung Cake	72	12.20	18	6.74	4	9.30	94	10.44
Agricultural Waste	31	5.25	25	9.36	1	2.33	57	6.33
Gobar Gas Plant	2	0.34	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	0.22
LPG	5	0.85	1	0.37	4	9.30	10	1.11
Others	1	0.17	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0.11
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Facility of Drainage								
Yes	57	9.66	60	22.47	7	16.28	124	13.78
No	533	90.34	207	77.53	36	83.72	776	86.22
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Covered Area								
Below 100	6	1.02	2	0.75	0	0.00	8	0.89
100-200	120	20.34	36	13.48	5	11.63	161	17.89
200-300	77	13.05	33	12.36	8	18.60	118	13.11
300 and above	387	65.59	196	73.41	30	69.77	613	68.11
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Value of House (000 Rs)								
Below 50	451	76.44	231	86.52	26	60.47	708	78.67
50 - 100	98	16.61	22	8.24	8	18.60	128	14.22
100 - 200	27	4.58	11	4.12	5	11.63	43	4.78
200 and above	14	2.37	3	1.12	4	9.30	21	2.33
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00

of the Muslim households. The dependence in the case of Sikh was as high as 95 per cent. The next important source was public handpump or Tubewell. What was important was that a majority of households had the source of drinking water within the house itself or within

100 metres of their residence. However, the households were not having toilet facilities within the house. This was an aspect in which Hindu households were the worse off with less than 10 per cent having a toilet. Even among the Muslims this percentage was only 16 and the Sikh families were relatively best served with around 28 per cent households enjoying this facility. Even the drainage conditions were very poor in these households.

Almost all households were dependent on wood as the main source of fuel. The next in importance was hay and leaves. Dependence on hay and leaves which was the main source in 20 per cent Hindu and around 37 per cent Muslim households again is an indicator of their poor economic conditions.

Since a majority of people were living in small Kutcha or semi-pucca houses it is not at all surprising to see that the overall average value of their houses was below 50 thousand (for all details related to houses and housing facilities please see Table 3.17).

7. Source of Income

The most important source of income of the households is obviously agriculture. However, keeping in mind the differences in size of land holdings the share generated varies across the three religious groups. For the Hindus it generates around 52.6 per cent of their total income while in case of Muslims it is only around 33.7 per cent. In the case of Sikh households agriculture contributes 85 per cent of the total household income. The second most important source for both Muslims and Hindus is non-agricultural wage earnings followed by agricultural wages. The second most important source is animal husbandry in

Table 3.18: Average income per household by different sources

(Rs.)

Source of Income	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Agriculture	16273	8336	41767	15412
Animal Husbandry	2113	1306	5182	2054
Artisan Work	99	323	0	161
Trade	632	1881	0	982
Manufacturing	182	453	0	253
Ag Wages	3133	2669	0	2845
Non Ag Wages	4427	6113	0	4716
Services	2400	2031	0	2176
Interest	9	15	0	10
Remittances	134	112	1277	188
Pension	619	137	766	486
Others	951	1352	128	1048
Total	30970	24730	49119	30332

the case of Sikh households. All other sources are relatively less significant as is evident from Table 3.18. The overall average annual income of the Hindu households is around Rs.31 thousand while in the case of the Muslims they are once again the depressed community with average income of below Rs.25 thousand. The Sikhs maintain their high economic status with an average income of around Rs.49 thousand (for details please see Table 3.18). This means that monthly household income is Rs.2581 and Rs.2061 for Hindus and Muslims respectively while for Sikh households it is Rs.4093. Table 3.19 provides the frequency distribution of households by size groups of family income.

Table 3.19: Distribution of Households by Size of family Income

Size of Income (000 Rs)	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Below 25	336	56.95	152	56.93	11	25.58	499	55.44
25-50	173	29.32	83	31.09	16	37.21	272	30.22
50-100	56	9.49	26	9.74	9	20.93	91	10.11
100-150	20	3.39	4	1.50	6	13.95	30	3.33
150-250	3	0.51	1	0.37	1	2.33	5	0.56
250-400	1	0.17	1	0.37	0	0.00	2	0.22
400 and above	1	0.17	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0.11
Total Households	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00

8. Expenditure Pattern of Households

The expenditure pattern of households is correlated to their levels of income. Consequently the average annual expenditure per household is around Rs.27 thousand among Hindus while among Muslims it is around Rs.24 thousand. This means that the average per month works out to Rs.2243 and Rs.1998 for Hindus and Muslims respectively. The Sikh households on the other hand have a much higher expenditure pattern of almost Rs.47 thousand (or Rs.3909 per month). However, keeping in mind the levels of income of these households it is quite evident that irrespective of the religious group these households are hardly in a position to save money as their income levels are quite low (Table 3.20).

If we analyse the expenditure on different items of expenditure the most important item is foodgrains for all the three religious communities. While among the Hindu and Muslim households share of expenditure on foodgrains is around 40-41 per cent of their total expenditure, the Sikh are spending only around 20 per cent on this head. A fair amount is also being spent on vegetables, milk, spices, etc. Medical care also is an item, which has a fair share in total expenditure. The Sikh community also spends a sizeable amount on social ceremonies and on repayment of loans. The details of expenditure made on different items of expenditure are provide din Table 3.21.

Table 3.20: Distribution of Households by Size of family Expenditure (Annual)

Size of Expenditure (000 Rs.)	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Others	%
Below 25	365	61.86	186	69.66	12	27.91	563	62.56
25-50	171	28.98	71	26.59	19	44.19	261	29.00
50-100	45	7.63	8	3.00	7	16.28	60	6.67
100-150	6	1.02	1	0.37	2	4.65	9	1.00
150-250	2	0.34	1	0.37	3	6.98	6	0.67
250-400	1	0.17	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0.11
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Per Household Exp.	26914		23978		46913		27408	

Table 3.21: Average expenditure per households on different heads

(Rs.)

Heads of expenditure	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Cereal and Pulses				
Own Produce	6963	4826	6958	6410
Purchased	3881	5074	2544	4207
Vegetable, Meat, Milk, Spices, Sugar				
Own Produce	1011	498	2874	966
Purchased	2916	2668	2745	2869
Clothes, Footwear, bedding	1599	1550	1971	1624
Education	1002	694	2047	974
Medical	3219	2651	3640	3124
Festivals	973	943	1159	990
Electricity, Gas and Fuel	480	337	986	469
Telephone	457	386	1946	521
House repairing	547	481	3002	663
Payment of loans	715	614	7294	1034
Beedi, Cigarette, alcohol	695	717	1004	724
Recreation	211	204	467	225
Marriage and other ceremonies	989	1166	5570	1291
Others	1256	1170	2705	1317
Total	26914	23978	46913	27408

9. Details of Workers and their Occupation

The main occupation of the majority of workers is cultivation. In the entire sample around 47.5 per cent workers have cultivation as their primary occupation. The highest share is found among Sikh (72 per cent) followed by Hindus (51 per cent). Among the Muslims however the primary occupation is doing manual labour (42.5 per cent) while cultivation is second in importance with around 35 per cent workers engaged in this activity. In the case of Hindus the second most important occupation is manual labour (33.5 per cent) while animal husbandry is the second most important activity among the Sikh households. The two most significant occupations account for around 84.5 per cent of all Hindu workers and around 76 per

cent in the case of Muslim workers. Even in the case of the Sikh households the proportion of workers found in the top two occupations is around 88.5 per cent. This, therefore, implies that other occupations are less significant. While among the male workers cultivation remains the main primary occupation, among females it is animal husbandry. This holds true for all the three religious categories (for details please see Table 3.22).

Table 3.22: Distribution of working family members by their primary occupation

Total	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Cultivators	612	51.26	180	34.82	57	72.15	849	47.43
Manual labour	399	33.42	220	42.55	5	6.33	624	34.86
Professional/Managerial and administrative work	19	1.59	5	0.97	0	0.00	24	1.34
Clerk/Supervisor/Accountant	13	1.09	3	0.58	0	0.00	16	0.89
Sales/Business	25	2.09	31	6.00	0	0.00	56	3.13
Caste Occupation	16	1.34	14	2.71	0	0.00	30	1.68
Animal Husbandry	85	7.12	38	7.35	13	16.46	136	7.60
Others	25	2.09	26	5.03	4	5.06	55	3.07
Total	1194	100.00	517	100.00	79	100.00	1790	100.00
Men								
Cultivators	604	54.86	174	37.34	56	81.16	834	50.98
Manual labour	383	34.79	213	45.71	5	7.25	601	36.74
Professional/Managerial and administrative work	16	1.45	3	0.64	0	0.00	19	1.16
Clerk/Supervisor/Accountant	11	1.00	2	0.43	0	0.00	13	0.79
Sales/Business	22	2.00	28	6.01	0	0.00	50	3.06
Caste Occupation	15	1.36	12	2.58	0	0.00	27	1.65
Animal Husbandry	27	2.45	12	2.58	4	5.80	43	2.63
Others	23	2.09	22	4.72	4	5.80	49	3.00
Total	1101	100.00	466	100.00	69	100.00	1636	100.00
Women								
Cultivators	8	8.60	6	11.76	1	10.00	15	9.74
Manual labour	16	17.20	7	13.73	0	0.00	23	14.94
Professional/Managerial and administrative work	3	3.23	2	3.92	0	0.00	5	3.25
Clerk/Supervisor/Accountant	2	2.15	1	1.96	0	0.00	3	1.95
Sales/Business	3	3.23	3	5.88	0	0.00	6	3.90
Caste Occupation	1	1.08	2	3.92	0	0.00	3	1.95
Animal Husbandry	58	62.37	26	50.98	9	90.00	93	60.39
Others	2	2.15	4	7.84	0	0.00	6	3.90
Total	93	100.00	51	100.00	10	100.00	154	100.00

The main secondary occupations are also on similar lines as the primary occupation with cultivation, manual labour and animal husbandry being the most important secondary occupations of our sample households whether Hindu, Muslim or Sikh (see Table 3.23).

Table 3.23: Distribution of working family members by their Secondary occupation

Secondary Occupation	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Men								
Cultivators	213	36.92	84	35.00	8	21.62	305	35.71
Manual labour	187	32.41	84	35.00	3	8.11	274	32.08
Professional/Managerial and administrative work	4	0.69	0	0.00	0	0.00	4	0.47
Clerk/Supervisor/Accountant	1	0.17	1	0.42	0	0.00	2	0.23
Sales/Business	6	1.04	4	1.67	0	0.00	10	1.17
Caste Occupation	3	0.52	5	2.08	0	0.00	8	0.94
Animal Husbandry	145	25.13	52	21.67	25	67.57	222	26.00
Others	18	3.12	10	4.17	1	2.70	29	3.40
Total	577	100.00	240	100.00	37	100.00	854	100.00
Women								
Cultivators	2	11.11	1	12.50	0	0.00	3	11.54
Manual labour	4	22.22	5	62.50	0	0.00	9	34.62
Animal Husbandry	12	66.67	2	25.00	0	0.00	14	53.85
Total	18	100.00	8	100.00	0	0.00	26	100.00

As a result of a majority of workers being engaged in agriculture and animal husbandry the maximum concentration of workers is as self-employed persons followed by casual labourers. The self-employed category accounts for around 57 and 46.5 per cent of Hindu and Muslim workers respectively. In the case of Sikh workers, however, this share is as high as nearly 85 per cent. Casual workers, on the other hand have a share of around 37 and 47 per cent if we look at the Hindu and Muslim workers. Among Sikh the share is obviously much lower (10 per cent). As a result only around 6 per cent workers were doing work as regular salaried workers (please see Table 3.24 for details).

Table 3.24: Distribution of working family members by type of employment

Type of Employment	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Total								
Self Employed	681	57.04	240	46.42	67	84.81	988	55.20
Regular	75	6.28	35	6.77	4	5.06	114	6.37
Casual	438	36.68	242	46.81	8	10.13	688	38.44
Total	1194	100.00	517	100.00	79	100.00	1790	100.00
Men								
Self Employed	615	55.86	205	43.99	59	85.51	879	53.73
Regular	68	6.18	32	6.87	4	5.80	104	6.36
Casual	418	37.97	229	49.14	6	8.70	653	39.91
Total	1101	100.00	466	100.00	69	100.00	1636	100.00
Women								
Self Employed	66	70.97	35	68.63	8	80.00	109	70.78
Regular	7	7.53	3	5.88	0	0.00	10	6.49
Casual	20	21.51	13	25.49	2	20.00	35	22.73
Total	93	100.00	51	100.00	10	100.00	154	100.00

The person days of employment in agriculture varies from around 185 to 215 days per annum. Similarly the workers are taking up manual labour for about 175 days among Hindus and Muslims whereas the figure is slightly higher in the case of Sikh workers. Animal husbandry keeps people occupied for around 250-275 days annually (details for total workers, men and women and for different occupations are provided in Table 3.25). As far as the secondary occupation is concerned the workers are spending around 100-115 days annually. Some minor variations can be seen among the three religious groups (Table 3.26).

Table 3.25: Per worker person days employment in main occupation

Main Occupation	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Total				
Cultivators	195	187	215	196
Manual labour	174	175	208	176
Professional/Managerial and administrative work	280	216	0	263
Clerk/Supervisor/Accountant	290	285	0	287
Sales/Business	231	266	0	256
Caste Occupation	193	132	0	164
Animal Husbandry	249	270	275	263
Others	253	203	258	233
Total	197	193	226	199
Men				
Cultivators	195	188	216	197
Manual labour	175	175	208	176
Professional/Managerial and administrative work	290	300	0	292
Clerk/Supervisor/Accountant	290	245	0	280
Sales/Business	225	262	0	252
Caste Occupation	189	135	0	165
Animal Husbandry	219	233	245	231
Others	244	214	258	236
Total	193	188	220	194
Women				
Cultivators	138	174	120	151
Manual labour	157	191	0	167
Professional/Managerial and administrative work	208	90	0	161
Clerk/Supervisor/Accountant	275	280	0	278
Sales/Business	280	300	0	290
Caste Occupation	240	110	0	153
Animal Husbandry	263	287	288	279
Others	365	140	0	215
Total	236	236	272	243

Table 3.26: Per worker person days employment in secondary education

Secondary Occupation	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Men				
Cultivators	108	112	94	109
Manual labour	114	107	90	111
Professional/Managerial and administrative work	113	0	0	113
Clerk/Supervisor/Accountant	123	101	0	112
Sales/Business	127	140	0	132
Caste Occupation	107	77	0	88
Animal Husbandry	133	131	106	129
Others	101	90	150	99
Total	116	113	103	114
Women				
Cultivators	100	40	0	80
Manual labour	88	90	0	89
Animal Husbandry	144	180	0	149
Total	126	106	0	120

10. Migration

A few persons from the selected households had migrated in search of work. The migrants were mainly from among Hindus and Muslims because out of a total 172 migrants only 4 were Sikh. A majority of them are in the age group 20-40 years and have mainly migrated to take up manual work. Nearly three-fourths of the migrants have gone within the district itself to either another rural area or an urban centre. Moreover these migrants are either daily commuters or those who have migrated for short duration of upto 3 months in the entire year (for details please see Table 3.27).

Table 3.27 : Details of Migrants Workers

Pattern of Migration	Religion							
	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Total Persons	99	100.00	69	100.00	4	100.00	172	100.00
Men	99	100.00	69	100.00	4	100.00	172	100.00
Women	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Age (in years)								
Below 20	20	20.20	22	31.88	0	0.00	42	24.42
20-40	63	63.64	36	52.17	4	100.00	103	59.88
40-60	16	16.16	10	14.49	0	0.00	26	15.12
60 and above	0	0.00	1	1.45	0	0.00	1	0.58
Occupational Destination								
Professional/Managerial and Administrative work (Total)	2	2.02	2	2.90	2	50.00	6	3.49
Clerk/ Supervisor/ Accountants (Total)	5	5.05	0	0.00	0	0.00	5	2.91
Sales/ Business (Total)	9	9.09	7	10.14	0	0.00	16	9.30
Manual Labour	70	70.71	56	81.16	1	25.00	127	73.84
Cast Occupation (Total)	10	10.10	3	4.35	0	0.00	13	7.56
Cultivate	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Animal Husbandry	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Others	3	3.03	1	1.45	1	25.00	5	2.91

Table 3.27 (contd...)

Pattern of Migration	Religion							
	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Place of Migration								
Within District (Rural)	29	29.29	18	26.09	2	50.00	49	28.49
Within District (Urban)	50	50.51	30	43.48	1	25.00	81	47.09
Within State (Rural)	3	3.03	2	2.90	0	0.00	5	2.91
Within State (Urban)	13	13.13	14	20.29	1	25.00	28	16.28
Outside State (Rural)	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Outside State (Urban)	4	4.04	3	4.35	0	0.00	7	4.07
Outside Country	0	0.00	2	2.90	0	0.00	2	1.16
Duration of Migration								
Short Term	54	54.55	33	47.83	0	0.00	87	50.58
Long Term	5	5.05	3	4.35	2	50.00	10	5.81
Daily Commuters	40	40.40	33	47.83	2	50.00	75	43.60
Total	99	100.00	69	100.00	4	100.00	172	100.00

11. Indebtedness among Households

It is only natural that people keep requiring loan for various productive or unproductive purposes. The incidence of loan becomes higher among households who have lower income levels. Indebtedness among the Muslim households was highest with around 52 per cent households found indebted. The Hindus followed close behind them with a 50.5 per cent figure of indebtedness households. Among the Sikh families only 30 per cent households had procured a loan. However, when we look at the average amount of loan outstanding among the three different categories it is found that highest amount of outstanding loan is in the case of Sikh households (almost Rs.84 thousand) while in the case of the Hindus this amount was only around Rs.12 thousand. Although Muslims had over 52 per cent indebted households but the average loan outstanding per household is only around Rs.7.5 thousand.

Table 3.28: Distribution of households by amount of loan

Amount of loan outstanding (000 Rs)	Religion							
	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Below 15	176	59.06	108	77.70	3	8.82	287	60.93
15-30	66	22.15	18	12.95	8	23.53	92	19.53
30-45	17	5.70	3	2.16	2	5.88	22	4.67
45-60	17	5.70	6	4.32	3	8.82	26	5.52
60-75	3	1.01	1	0.72	2	5.88	6	1.27
75-90	3	1.01	0	0.00	3	8.82	6	1.27
90 and above	16	5.37	3	2.16	13	38.24	32	6.79
Total H.H.	298	100.00	139	100.00	34	100.00	471	100.00
Per Household (Rs.)	11980		7549		83916		14103	

Table 3.29 provides an insight into the various factors, which compelled households to take loans and also the source through which the loans were procured. The reasons for taking loan could be more than one and this explains why we have multiple responses. However, among the Hindus the single most important reason for taking loan is to meet the health expenditure as nearly 97 per cent indebted households have borrowed money for this purpose. The next in importance is for consumption purposes (87 per cent). Among the Muslims the importance of these two items of borrowing have been reversed with 86 per cent households borrowing to meet their consumption needs and 74 per cent to meet the medical expenses. However, the most important reason for taking loan among Sikh households is for agriculture (around 59 per cent). These loans have been taken for purchasing various implements and machinery used in agricultural operations including purchase of tractor. This is the primary reason why per household loan outstanding figure is around Rs.84 thousand.

Table 3.29: **Distribution of Households by source and cause of indebtedness**

Pattern of Indebtedness	Religion			
	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Total sample households	590	267	43	900
Indebted Households	298	139	34	471
Non-Indebted households	292	128	9	429
Reason of Loan				
Agriculture	110	25	20	155
Trade and Commerce	16	16	6	38
Animal Purchase	69	21	12	102
House Construction	36	4	4	44
Consumption	260	119	5	384
Health	288	103	18	409
Festival/Functions	189	63	7	259
Others	160	80	8	248
Source of Loan				
Institutional				
Commercial Banks	53	13	11	77
Gramin Banks	81	19	11	111
Cooperative Bank/Society	24	2	2	28
SHG/NGO	7	0	0	7
Non-Institutional				
Trader	8	4	2	14
Money Lender	48	22	7	77
Land-lord Employee	11	5	1	17
Friends/ Relatives	58	61	0	119
Others	8	13	0	21

12. Aspiration of Parents about Children's Education

Unfortunately the respondent's it seems do not think very positively in terms of the education of their children. This becomes apparent from the fact that around 30 per cent did not even respond to the query as to the level, which they wanted their sons to get educated. This percentage was even higher (nearly 42 per cent) in the case of girls. This aptly brings out the bias in our society against the girls. Even the responses were not very encouraging because almost 30 per cent Hindus felt that High School or Intermediate is sufficient for boys and around 45 held the same opinion regarding girls. With almost 60 per cent either giving no response or in favour of education of boy's upto a maximum level of Intermediate, it follows that only very few wanted their children to obtain higher levels of education. The scenario was even worse in the case of Muslim households. For boys nearly 48 per cent felt that upto Intermediate was good enough and the corresponding figure in case of girls was quite similar. This mentality is possibly the main reason why a high proportion of workers from both the communities end up as wage earners either in agriculture or non-agricultural activities. Although the situation among Sikhs is not very much better but they are relatively better off and a majority of them are gainfully engaged in cultivation and animal husbandry, they too do not feel the need for giving higher education to their children (for details see Table 3.30).

Table 3.30: Aspiration of Parents regarding their children's education

Aspiration of Parents for education of their children	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
BOYS								
No Response	166	28.14	90	33.71	18	41.86	274	30.44
High school	64	10.85	53	19.85	2	4.65	119	13.22
Intermediate	171	28.98	74	27.72	9	20.93	254	28.22
Pre Graduation/Diploma	19	3.22	6	2.25	3	6.98	28	3.11
Bachelor's Degree	124	21.02	31	11.61	7	16.28	162	18.00
Post Graduation	32	5.42	5	1.87	2	4.65	39	4.33
Technical Education	14	2.37	8	3.00	2	4.65	24	2.67
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
GIRLS								
No Response	226	38.31	124	46.44	25	58.14	375	41.67
High school	128	21.69	95	35.58	3	6.98	226	25.11
Intermediate	136	23.05	31	11.61	8	18.60	175	19.44
Pre Graduation/Diploma	29	4.92	5	1.87	1	2.33	35	3.89
Bachelor's Degree	56	9.49	9	3.37	4	9.30	69	7.67
Post Graduation	12	2.03	1	0.37	1	2.33	14	1.56
Technical Education	3	0.51	2	0.75	1	2.33	6	0.67
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00

13. Willingness for Training to Improve Skill Formation

We had tried to find out from our respondents whether they were willing to undertake training themselves or send any family member in case they were given the opportunity. Unfortunately, the responses received have been rather poor. In the entire sample of 900 households positive response was received from only 39 per cent of the respondents. Least willingness was shown by the Sikh households (around 21 per cent). Among the Hindus the figure was around 27 per cent. However, the Muslim households showed maximum keenness with around 46 per cent of them responding in the affirmative. The nature of training in which they showed their eagerness differed across the religious groups. Among the Hindus for example among the households wanting training the maximum (around one-third) wanted vocational training such as tailoring, embroidery, masonry, carpentry, etc., while the next most important category was that related to computers. Among the Muslims also vocational training was most important but was followed closely by the desire to become mechanics (around 22 per cent). A small percentage (11 per cent) showed preference for computer training. The other trainings are obviously very low down in their order of preference. In the case of the Sikh households the only two areas where preference has been shown is to become drivers which is in tune with the fact that some households have transport as one of their means of earning (about 22 per cent). However, the maximum (around 78 per cent) have shown willingness for computer training.

Table 3.31: Willingness of respondents for obtaining training

Type of Training	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Vocational Training	73	33.49	39	31.45	0	0.00	112	31.91
Driver	12	5.50	3	2.42	2	22.22	17	4.84
Mechanic	15	6.88	27	21.77	0	0.00	42	11.97
Computer	62	28.44	14	11.29	7	77.78	83	23.65
B.Ed/BTC	1	0.46		0.00	0	0.00	1	0.28
ITI/Polytechnics	11	5.05	2	1.61	0	0.00	13	3.70
Animal Husbandry	16	7.34	9	7.26	0	0.00	25	7.12
Agriculture	2	0.92		0.00	0	0.00	2	0.57
Small Enterprises	23	10.55	26	20.97	0	0.00	49	13.96
Others	3	1.38	4	3.23	0	0.00	7	1.99
Total	218	100.00	124	100.00	9	100.00	351	100.00
Place of Training								
Local	83	38.07	54	43.55	2	22.22	139	39.60
Nearby centre	90	41.28	45	36.29	4	44.44	139	39.60
District Headquarter	45	20.64	25	20.16	3	33.33	73	20.80
Total	218	100.00	124	100.00	9	100.00	351	100.00
Willingness to pay for training at least partly								
Yes	139	63.76	71	57.26	9	100.00	219	62.39
No	79	36.24	53	42.74		0.00	132	37.61
Total	218	100.00	124	100.00	9	100.00	351	100.00

By and large those willing to undertake training want that training should be available locally or a nearby centre. Over 80 per cent responses fell in this category among both Hindu and Muslim households. However, among the Sikh households a relatively higher proportion was willing to go to the district headquarter to receive the training.

What was encouraging to note was that despite the low income levels around 64 per cent Hindu and 57 per cent Muslim households were willing to contribute at least partly towards the total cost of training. Since the Sikh community is relatively better off economically all respondents have shown their willingness to pay (for details related to training please refer to Table 3.31).

14. Health Related Issues

If we look at details of illness in the families of our respondents there were not many to report that there was no illness among the family members. The most commonly occurring problems were seasonal diseases and stomach related ailments. These together accounted for around two-thirds of the sick persons from each community. Seasonal diseases are common everywhere and since Kheri has the problem of impure water it is the primary factor behind stomach ailments among the households irrespective of the religion.

Table 3.32: Details of Illness in the family

No of Persons falling ill	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Total	647		385		52		1084	
Type of disease								
Seasonal Diseases	293	45.29	190	49.35	19	36.54	502	46.31
Prolonged Fevers	43	6.65	26	6.75	3	5.77	72	6.64
ENT/Eyes	28	4.33	15	3.90	3	5.77	46	4.24
Accident	53	8.19	36	9.35	8	15.38	97	8.95
Stomach Related	143	22.10	83	21.56	14	26.92	240	22.14
Chronic diseases	62	9.58	23	5.97	3	5.77	88	8.12
Others	25	3.86	12	3.12	2	3.85	39	3.60
Total	647	100.00	385	100.00	52	100.00	1084	100.00
Where treated								
Govt. Hospital	85	13.14	54	14.03	2	3.85	141	13.01
Private Hospital	301	46.52	110	28.57	20	38.46	431	39.76
Both Govt and Private	34	5.26	17	4.42	3	5.77	54	4.98
Traditional	7	1.08	0	0.00	0	0.00	7	0.65
Local Govt health employee	1	0.15	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0.09
Home treatment	7	1.08	7	1.82	2	3.85	16	1.48
Quacks	212	32.77	197	51.17	25	48.08	434	40.04
Total	647	100.00	385	100.00	52	100.00	1084	100.00
Avg Expenditure per household p.a. (Rs.)	3219		2651		3640		3124	

A majority of the patients (46.5 per cent) from the Hindu households were treated by private practitioners. However, nearly one-third went to the local *jhola* type quacks for treatment. What is really disturbing is that the frequency of visiting these quacks was found to be much higher among Muslim and Sikh households, which reported that 51 and 48 per cent sick people were treated by these *jhola*, *chap* doctors respectively. What was equally glaring is the fact that dependence on government hospitals was extremely low with only around 13 per cent of the patients visiting them for their treatment. This is a poor reflection on the health services provided at the PHC and CHC. On an average each household is spending around Rs.3100 annually on health care. The variation between the three communities is only marginal (details related to illness, treatment and expenditure can be seen in Table 3.32).

There were a total of 920 children below 5 years of age in Kheri district. It was found that 98 per cent of the children from Hindu families had been given polio drops. The corresponding figure for Muslim and Sikh children was 99 and 100 per cent respectively. However, the percentage of children receiving other vaccinations was relatively much lower. Out of the total number of children who were vaccinated as many as 83 per cent had been vaccinated by an ASHA. This highlights the fact that ASHA has been playing an active role in the field of children's vaccination (Table 3.33).

Table 3.33: Details of Vaccination among children below five years

Total No. of Children below 5 years	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Total	588	287	35	920
Details of Vaccination				
Polio	579	286	35	910
Diphtheria	197	77	22	300
BCG	348	135	32	519
Small Pox	139	42	19	201
Jaundice	35	15	10	61
Where Vaccinated				
Govt Hospital	54	22	10	86
Private Hospital	18	10	8	36
Midwife/ASHA	500	242	17	759
Untrained Dai	3	0	0	3
Others	4	12	0	16
Total	579	286	35	910

15. Assessment of the Public Distribution System

About 60 per cent of our total respondents have declared that they fall in the BPL category. The percentage was highest among Muslims (72 per cent) followed by Hindus (58 per

cent). Among the Sikhs however the proportion of families in the BPL category is below 5 per cent. Despite belonging to the BPL category not every household has been able to obtain a BPL Ration Card. Among Hindus only around 79 per cent BPL families have a Card while in the case of Muslims this percentage is 76. Even among families above poverty line all do not possess a normal Ration Card. On the whole therefore around 80 per cent families are able to obtain rations etc. from the fair price shop. A majority of the ration holders have reported that the owner of the fair price shops does not give rations etc. on time. Around 63 per cent of the households taking one item or the other have reported this matter. Another 15 per cent have complained about the quality of rations available in the fair price shops. A very few percentage (around 4 per cent) were of the opinion that the shop owner cheats them while weighing the rations. Around 17 per cent feel that the fair price shops are not violating any rule. However, the main items, which are purchased on a regular basis, are sugar and kerosene oil. The off-take of wheat and rice is limited. Around two-thirds of the total respondents who visit these public distribution centres are not able to procure the amount to which they are entitled to every month. The reasons cited for their inability are shortage of money and untimely supply of the rations (for details please refer to Table 3.34).

Table 3.34: Details related to availability of food items through PDS

Are you in BPL Category	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Yes	345	193	2	540
No	245	74	41	360
Total	590	267	43	900
Do you have BPL Card				
Yes	274	147	2	423
No	71	46	0	117
Total	345	193	2	540
Do u get ration from PDS				
Yes	472	215	42	729
No	118	52	1	171
Total	590	267	43	900
Problems faced in PDS				
Insufficient Quantity	300	144	17	466
Bad Quality	62	46	6	114
Less Weight	17	13	2	32
Are you capable of getting your share				
Yes	299	147	34	480
No	173	68	8	249
Total	472	215	42	729
If No, than reasons				
Lack of Money	187	81	7	275
Lack of Supply in PDS	36	25	3	64
Discrimination by PDS Trader	10	4	0	14
Others	7	1	0	8

16. Awareness about Government Programmes

The main developmental programmes which are being implemented presently are Swarn Jayanti Gramin Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), Widow Pension, Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). We tried to find out the extent to which our respondents were aware of these programmes and the number of those who had actually availed one scheme or the other.

It was revealed that maximum awareness among the Hindu and Muslim respondents was with respect to IAY, Widow pension scheme and SSA. Less than half of the respondents were aware of the other developmental programmes. As compared to this the awareness among the Sikh households was much higher. Unfortunately the actual number of households availing these schemes was quite negligible. Maximum level of availment was in SSA and that was expected. The only other scheme, which people have availed, to a relatively higher extent is IAY where 17.6 and 10.1 per cent Hindu and Muslim households respectively have been benefited. In all the schemes the proportion of households is below 10. The Pradhan emerges as the single most important source of the governmental programmes among the village community (details regarding all these aspects are highlighted in Table 3.35). What is interesting is that despite the low levels of availment a much higher percentage feels that these schemes are useful to them.

Table 3.35: Awareness about Govt programmes

	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Awareness				
SGSY	268	92	20	380
NREGA	282	143	16	441
IAY	529	223	42	794
Widow Pension	449	192	40	681
TSC	181	42	26	249
ARWSP	197	64	21	282
SSA	448	197	42	687
Benefited				
SGSY	58	16	0	74
NREGA	46	18	0	64
IAY	104	27	0	131
Widow Pension	36	13	0	49
TSC	32	5	1	38
ARWSP	13	2	0	15
SSA	331	121	1	453
Total	620	202	2	824

Table 3.35 (contd...)

	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Who selected				
SGSY				
Pradhan	50	11	0	61
Village secretary	6	3	0	9
SHG/NGO	0	1	0	1
Self	2	1	0	3
NREGA				
Pradhan	34	13	0	47
Village secretary	4	4	0	8
BDO	1	0	0	1
Self	7	1	0	8
IAY				
Pradhan	83	17	0	100
Village secretary	8	7	0	15
BDO	1	0	0	1
Self	12	3	0	15
Total	104	27	0	131
Widow Pension				
Pradhan	14	6	0	20
Village secretary	9	2	0	11
SHG/NGO	0	1	0	1
Self	13	4	0	17
Total	36	13	0	49
TSC				
Pradhan	15	0	0	15
Village secretary	3	5	0	8
DRDA Officer	1	0	0	1
Self	13	0	1	14
Total	32	5	1	38
ARWSP				
Pradhan	3	0	0	3
Village secretary	6	2	0	8
Self	4	0	0	4
Total	13	2	0	15
SSA				
Pradhan	45	9	0	54
Village secretary	21	4	1	26
DRDA Officer	0	1	0	1
SHG/NGO	13	1	0	14
Self	210	66	0	276
Total	289	81	1	371
Beneficial for you and your family				
SGSY	202	52	10	264
NREGA	177	95	8	280
IAY	394	161	27	582
Widow Pension	269	103	16	388
TSC	151	32	15	198
ARWSP	139	43	9	191
SSA	384	161	32	577
Total	1716	647	117	2480

17. Extent of Exposure to the Sources of Media

The population being rural and belonging to lower income categories in general is the reason why exposure to media is very low. Less than 5 per cent of the households irrespective of their religion read newspaper regularly. Similarly only around 10 per cent Hindu and Muslim households possess radio sets. Similarly around 8 and 3 per cent Hindu and Muslim households have a TV set. The Sikh families are better off as around one-third have a radio and a TV. In our entire sample of 7 households had a telephone connection but around 10 per cent had a mobile connection (Table 3.36).

Table 3.36: Exposure of respondents to media

Media	Hindu	Muslim	Sikh	Total
Newspaper	25	6	2	33
Radio	63	27	15	105
Television	47	10	14	71
Telephone	6	1	0	7
Mobile	49	21	19	89

18. Views of People about Facilities to be Accorded top priority in the Village

The three areas to which the respondents have drawn our attention which they feel need to be taken up on a priority basis by the Government in the village are development of roads, power and medical facilities. Sanitation follows close behind these three. These are also the aspects which have figured in their second and third most important areas of concern (details in Table 3.37).

Table 3.37: Views of respondents regarding facilities which need special attention

First Preference	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Road	120	20.34	57	21.35	18	41.86	195	21.67
Water	28	4.75	13	4.87	2	4.65	43	4.78
Health Facilities	119	20.17	55	20.60	5	11.63	179	19.89
Education	50	8.47	25	9.36	3	6.98	78	8.67
Transport	4	0.68	2	0.75	1	2.33	7	0.78
Electricity	100	16.95	46	17.23	2	4.65	148	16.44
House	16	2.71	9	3.37	2	4.65	27	3.00
Employment	15	2.54	11	4.12	2	4.65	28	3.11
Sanitation	97	16.44	30	11.24	2	4.65	129	14.33
Others	41	6.95	19	7.12	6	13.95	66	7.33
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00

Table 3.37 (contd...)

	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Second Preference								
Road	101	17.12	49	18.35	9	20.93	159	17.67
Water	40	6.78	18	6.74	9	20.93	67	7.44
Health Facilities	100	16.95	46	17.23	4	9.30	150	16.67
Education	72	12.20	28	10.49	5	11.63	105	11.67
Transport	9	1.53	5	1.87		0.00	14	1.56
Electricity	84	14.24	47	17.60	7	16.28	138	15.33
House	15	2.54	5	1.87		0.00	20	2.22
Employment	18	3.05	12	4.49	1	2.33	31	3.44
Sanitation	88	14.92	42	15.73	2	4.65	132	14.67
Others	63	10.68	15	5.62	6	13.95	84	9.33
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Third Preference								
Road	69	11.69	43	16.10	2	4.65	114	12.67
Water	47	7.97	8	3.00	7	16.28	62	6.89
Health Facilities	101	17.12	38	14.23	8	18.60	147	16.33
Education	74	12.54	45	16.85	6	13.95	125	13.89
Transport	13	2.20	4	1.50	1	2.33	18	2.00
Electricity	78	13.22	33	12.36	4	9.30	115	12.78
House	13	2.20	5	1.87		0.00	18	2.00
Employment	29	4.92	20	7.49	1	2.33	50	5.56
Sanitation	85	14.41	40	14.98	3	6.98	128	14.22
Others	81	13.73	31	11.61	11	25.58	123	13.67
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00

19. Views of Respondents on areas of Deprivation in their lives

Efforts were made to try and find out the facilities in which they feel they are presently deprived. They were asked to indicate the three most significant things in order of preference. Some variations are observed between the three religious groups. Top priority is given by Hindus to additional avenues of employment, followed by the need for a pucca house and possession of a reasonable land holding. Among the Muslims their first preference was highest to additional land followed by the desire for a pucca residence and then employment. In the case of the Sikh community a pucca house figured as the most prominent among first preference items followed by health and education (the details regarding the perceptions of the respondents are provided in Table 3.38).

Table 3.38: Views of the respondents regarding the most important aspects lagging in their lives'

First Preference	Hindu	%	Muslim	%	Sikh	%	Total	%
Land	130	22.03	87	32.58	2	4.65	219	24.33
House	153	25.93	57	21.35	10	23.26	220	24.44
Health	34	5.76	22	8.24	6	13.95	62	6.89
Education	53	8.98	19	7.12	6	13.95	78	8.67
Employment	154	26.10	48	17.98	7	16.28	209	23.22
Skill	12	2.03	6	2.25	0	0.00	18	2.00
Electricity/Water	10	1.69	5	1.87	0	0.00	15	1.67
Others	44	7.46	23	8.61	12	27.91	79	8.78
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Second Preference								
Land	48	8.14	30	11.24	0	0.00	78	8.67
House	92	15.59	81	30.34	4	9.30	177	19.67
Health	60	10.17	16	5.99	7	16.28	83	9.22
Education	88	14.92	24	8.99	8	18.60	120	13.33
Employment	159	26.95	58	21.72	10	23.26	227	25.22
Skill	34	5.76	24	8.99	4	9.30	62	6.89
Electricity/Water	20	3.39	6	2.25	3	6.98	29	3.22
Others	89	15.08	28	10.49	7	16.28	124	13.78
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00
Third Preference								
Land	25	4.24	12	4.49	1	2.33	38	4.22
House	40	6.78	18	6.74	1	2.33	59	6.56
Health	86	14.58	44	16.48	5	11.63	135	15.00
Education	84	14.24	42	15.73	11	25.58	137	15.22
Employment	133	22.54	85	31.84	5	11.63	223	24.78
Skill	80	13.56	30	11.24	4	9.30	114	12.67
Electricity/Water	22	3.73	16	5.99	9	20.93	47	5.22
Others	120	20.34	20	7.49	7	16.28	147	16.33
Total	590	100.00	267	100.00	43	100.00	900	100.00

Table 3.39: A Comparative Picture of our Selected Villages with Some Key All-India Indicators

Indicators	Survey Results	Estimate for India (2005)	Deviation from Nat. Average	Priority Ranking
1. Socio-Economic Indicators				
Literacy Rate (Total)	78.38	67.3	+11.80	9
Literacy Rate (Female)	68.83	57.1	+11.73	10
Work Participation Rate (Total)	28.61	38.0	-09.39	7
Work Participation Rate (Female)	5.33	21.5	-16.17	6
2. Basic Amenities				
Percentage of Pucca Houses	32.44	59.4	-26.96	2
% of Households with Safe Drinking Water	96.00	87.9	+08.10	8
% of Households with Sanitation Facilities	13.11	66.9	-54.79	1
% of Electrified Households	12.44	39.2	-26.76	3
3. Indicators of Health				
% of fully Vaccinated Children	21.85	43.5	-21.66	5
% of Institutional Deliveries	16.67	38.7	-22.03	4

If we compare the situation which emerges in our selected villages to that obtained in the country as a whole it is observed that with the exception of the two indicators of education the district lags far behind the levels attained at the national level. Despite the fact that with respect to safe drinking water the figures are higher than those obtained for India as a whole, the problem in Kheri is that in many areas the arsenic content in the water is much higher than the safe limit and consequently people suffer from stomach ailments. The handpumps and tubewells therefore need to be constructed by boring much deeper to the level where the potable water is available. Thus, although in terms of ranking this indicator is ranked as low as 8, it still needs to be given proper attention by the authorities.

20. Some Aspects, which need Special Attention of Officials

- (i) The first and probably among the most significant aspects which needs to be taken care of is the fact that the levels of literacy are quite low. One-third of the total samples were found illiterates. Only around 5 per cent had received education beyond High School. The condition among the Muslim households was worse. Despite the fact that enrolment levels in the school going age group is very high it should be ensured that they attend school regularly and study properly. Unfortunately the aspirations among the parents about the education of their children is highly limited and most seem satisfied if the child can attain education upto Intermediate level. In this context some NGOs could be identified who can undertake the task of spreading greater awareness among the parents in the light of the fact that either they are illiterates or have very low levels of education themselves.
- (ii) Health services are not properly developed in the area. The number of both PHCs and CHCs are much below the prescribed norm. The quality of water is rather poor and is resulting in high incidence of stomach related ailments. Because the sick are not getting proper medical attention in the government hospitals, they are forced to be dependent on private practitioners and even the *jhola chap* doctors. Consequently the annual per household expenditure on medical health care is around 10 per cent of their total household expenditure. Because the income levels are low a sizeable number of households who are indebted to meet their medical requirements. It is, therefore, a matter of top priority that the PHCs and CHCs should be properly manned and the facilities, which they are supposed to offer, should be available all

the year round in general and specifically during period when seasonal ailments are common. In this connection it is equally important to ensure the availability of safe drinking water and ensure proper drainage facilities.

- (iii) Around one-third of our respondents have expressed their desire to undertake training of various types so that they may enhance their skills. Most of them want vocational training to be provided to them. It is therefore important that the government should take appropriate action and set up training centres at convenient locations to ensure that those who are willing may be able to undergo short or medium duration training courses as may be the need of the individual or the specific training programme. Since people are from the disadvantaged group these training programmes will have to be subsidized because although respondents have expressed their desire to partly pay for them their affordability levels are rather low. The government, along with its own efforts, can also utilize the services of qualified NGOs to provide vocational and other types of training.
- (iv) Since land holding sizes are low the cultivators could be educated to diversify their activities. For this horticulture is an important option. Vegetables could be grown on small land holding sizes as the area is fairly well off with respect to irrigation facilities. Moreover, depending on the suitability of the area mushroom cultivation, sericulture, fisheries and poultry farming could also be developed. The State Government already has the departments who look after these activities. It only needs that extra effort to motivate people to take up these activities seriously on a commercial basis. All these activities if developed properly will prove extremely beneficial in raising the levels of living of the village community as well as in ensuring an all round development of the district as a whole.
- (v) Despite the fact that a number of promotional programmes of the government are being implemented, the awareness level among the villagers regarding these schemes was found to be low. It is, therefore, desirable that concerted efforts should be made to raise awareness levels and also to ensure that the beneficiaries selected are deserving and belong to the category for whom they have primarily been designed. In this context it would be also appropriate to point out that the problems related to the public distribution system, whether issuing of BPL cards or timely, adequate and good quality of rations be ensured.
- (vi) Development receives an impetus if the infrastructure facilities are developed adequately. In the case of Kheri district the road network is not properly developed.

The monsoons cause flood as well as water-logging. And they also damage roads. Proper road connectivity facilitates the movement of goods and services and this is lacking in the district. This aspect has been very clearly realized by the village folk and our respondents have accorded it top priority among the three most important concerns of their respective villages.

Equally important is the development of the power sector. This has been a cause of concern in the entire state and even in Kheri people get power supply for very few hours in a day. Not only is the supply irregular but its quality is poor with wide fluctuations in voltage.

- (vii) Yet another area of concern for villagers is that for undertaking various economic activities they are unable to take loans easily at reasonable rates of interest from the financial institutions. They are therefore forced to procure loans from the village money lender or other sources at high rate of interest.

These are some of the economic infrastructure facilities which need to be developed at the early date.

Since the Muslims have emerged as a disadvantaged group in terms of the various facilities and levels of income it is essential that the Minority Welfare Department should be come up with new schemes to improve their overall socio-economic conditions. It should also ensure that the ongoing schemes are implemented in right earnest. To do this it is first of all essential to strengthen the department itself. At the district level the Department is functioning with a skeleton staff and has no facilities of conveyance. The Minority Welfare Officer or the Senior Inspector is expected to tour the areas where a relatively higher minority population resides. This means they are expected to cover villages spread over the 15 blocks of the district. In order to facilitate these the department must be provided with more staff and at least one jeep because then only will they be able to justice to their work and responsibilities.

Annexure 1

Tehsil-wise List of Villages Selected for the Survey

Name of Tehsil	Name of the Village	
Lakhimpur	1. Ambuapur 2. Ginhauna 3. Saikhanpur	4. Kala Aam 5. Bhaduri 6. Gaura
Gola	1. Barethi 2. Kotwara 3. Ameernagar	4. Babipur 5. Itkuti 6. Jahanpur
Mohammadi	1. Potheli Amrita 2. Rachela Wajidpur 3. Rampur	4. Kalua Moti 5. Bandu Khera 6. Deori
Nighasan	1. Mirzaganj 2. Trikolia 3. Dhakherwa Khalsa	4. Rakhethi 5. Babiya 6. Gauriya
Dhorhara	1. Abhaypur 2. Maharajnagar 3. Raipur	4. Khamariya Kalan 5. Jamhaura 6. Darigapur